Manglona eyes to move Rota projects. PAGE 2
$1M request to buy CUC incinerator granted. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

75¢

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 21

www.saipantribune.com | THURSDAY JANUARY 31, 2019 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

## ON CONFUSION IN WORKERS' FATE

# IPI blames miscommunication

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chief executive officer Mark Brown told the Commonwealth Casino Commission that bad information was the root cause of the confusion between the construction workers and the casino hotel developer regarding the issue on their compensation and concerns about the validity of their H-2B visas.

Brown joined IPI vice president for human resources Bertha Leon Guerrero, general

See IPI on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chief executive officer Mark Brown, second left, speaks to members of the Commonwealth Casino Commission while company legal counsel Philip Tydingco looks on in yesterday's board meeting at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Technology Room in Susupe.

## Court-appointed counsel for Atalig

» Banes is now court- appointed counsel for Rota mayor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona determined yesterday that Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig is eligible for court-appointed counsel.

Manglona also granted David George Banes' motion to withdraw as private counsel for Atalig their law firm O'Connor Berman Horey & Banes.

Atalig

According to the minutes of the hearing, citing the complexity of this case and discovery, Manglona granted Atalig's request for

See ATALIG on Page 4

## Kilili to chair subcommittee in 116th House

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) will chair the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee in the 116th U.S. House of Representatives.

Sablan

The Marianas congressman was unanimously elected to the position by the Democratic members of the committee last Thursday. His chairmanship became official yesterday, when the full committee—Democrats and Republicans—met for the first time.

As chairman, Sablan will be responsible for all national policy dealing with education from infancy through the high school level as well as career and technical education. This includes early care and education programs such as the

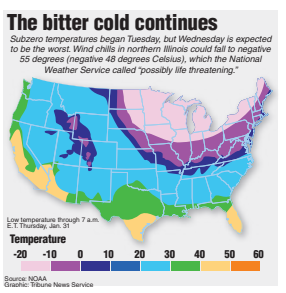
See KILILI on Page 4

## INSIDE

### LOCAL

Korea actress and fashion model Ye Seul Han had a photo to shoot in The Marianas with sunglasses brand SUPPORT LIGHT on Jan. 17-21, 2019.

PAGE 8


The bitter cold continues
Subzero temperatures began Tuesday, but Wednesday is expected to be the worst. Wind chills in northern Illinois could fall to negative 55 degrees (negative 48 degrees Celsius), which the National Weather Service called "possibly life threatening."
Low temperature through 7 a.m. E.T. Thursday, Jan. 31
Temperature
-20 -10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60
Source: NOAA
Graphic: Tribune News Service

### NATION

Winter's sharpest bite in years moved past painful into life-threatening territory Tuesday, prompting officials throughout the Midwest to take extraordinary measures.

PAGE 16

### LIFE & STYLE

Harvey Weinstein's lawyers said the movie mogul is not a sex trafficker, despite claims in a class-action lawsuit.

PAGE 21

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

# Local

## Manglona eyes to move Rota projects

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Manglona

Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) is looking to keep all planned Capital Improvement Projects on Rota to move forward, in order to inject money into the economy of the CNMI's southernmost island after being devastated by Typhoon Mangkhut in September last year.

Manglona, who was elected as the Rota Legislative Delegation chairman in Wednesday's organizational session, said this would be their main priority to help the people of Rota after the destruction it received from Mangkhut.

"We want to move our CIP projects. The Federal Highway funds and 702 CIP monies are at a standstill today. Construction project means employment opportunities for our people," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

"In addition, we will be working with Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Northern Marianas College, and others to advance trade education programs on Rota for our youth."

Educating the youth of Rota in trades skills would help compensate the lack of skilled workers that the CNMI is currently experiencing after U.S. Citizenship Immigration and Services with U.S. State Department's concurrence removed the Philippines from the H-2B visa program.

Manglona added that they would also seek the help of the Marianas Visitors Authority in promoting Rota as a tourist destination in the CNMI. "We need to engage [MVA], to work closely with our tourism partners on Rota, including airlines and hotel owners in promoting the beauty of our island."

He said that agriculture and healthcare are also the other things that the delegation wanted to focus on. "We will also be working closely with our farmers and fishermen on industry incentives. Healthcare continues to be a major concern. We need to fund adequately the inter-island and off-island medical referral."

Manglona then thanked the trust given to him by the four-member delegation. "I appreciate the members' support for me to head the Rota Legislative Delegation. There is no question that Rota is really suffering economically. Our people are having a really tough time making ends meet with the high cost of food and other commodities. We have many challenges ahead of us."

Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota), who is one of the seven new faces in the CNMI Legislature, was elected as the vice chairman, while Senate president Victor B. Hocog of the GOP is the floor leader.

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), a member of the Republican majority in the previous Legislature but decided to run as independent in the last elections, is the delegation's legislative secretary.

## PUTC committee to take issues head-on

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Vinnie F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) is the newest member of the Senate, but will be taking on a bigger role after being appointed as the chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communication in the 21st Legislature. Sablan topped the last elections for the Third Senatorial District followed by Sen. Justo S. Quitugua (R-Saipan).

Sablan replaced Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), who is now the PUTC vice chair, and at the helm of PUTC with the latter being appointed to head two committees—Federal Relations and Independent Agencies and Judiciary, Government, and Law.

He said that his still getting a feel of things in the Senate after serving two consecutive terms at the House of Representatives in the 19th and 20th Legislatures.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Commonwealth Ports Authority (air and sea ports), the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority for transportation, Department of Public Works for roads, and telecommunications companies IT&E and Docomo Pacific fall under PUTC.

The first-term senator from Precinct 4 said he has already met with representatives from CUC, COTA, IT&E, Docomo, and DPW, and has also made arrangements to talk with CPA officials.

"I just want to make sure that I cover all grounds. I'm still, in kind of getting into what's going on within PUTC. I know down the pipeline, there will be several concerns, ideas, and issues of agencies and industries that will come up that fall under my committee," said Sablan.

"So, I want to make sure that I'm prepared. I want to make sure that I know how to approach each situation. We're diving in, we're doing introductory meetings, and other things. Just getting up to speed on what was left off in the last Legislature."

He added that as the days go by, the Senate PUTC Committee would look into all the current issues that would come up. "We will be calling committee and public hearings just to make sure we cover all grounds in taking the appropriate action and in trying to find solutions to better provide services to our people."

"That's where we are at right now. I'm just kind of reading through the responsibility of the position of chair. I'm excited to take on the role and hopefully we make the necessary actions to improve the services to the people. We're moving forward and we're ready to go to work."

Quitugua and Sens. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian) and Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) are the other members of the PUTC committee.

Cruz will again head the Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, while Hofschneider is the Senate Fiscal Affairs committee chairman. Quitugua takes on the Education and Youth Affairs and Health and Welfare portfolios, while Sen. Francisco M. Borja (R-Tinian) the committee chairman for Resources, Economic Development, and Programs.

IP&E
Fueling Excellence
Grow with us!
PIC GIFT SHOP - SALES ASSOCIATE
This position is responsible for providing customers with a positive and memorable shopping experience by providing excellent customer service. Applicants must have a minimum of one year of retail sales experience.
Interested individuals who meet the above requirements should submit their resume no later than Friday, February 8th, 2019. Applications and resumes may be submitted to the attention of IP&E Human Resources Department via:
Office: Corner Puetto St. and Industrial DriveCommercial Port Saipan, MP 96950
Email: HumanResourceTeam@ipehq.com
Mail to: PMB 1009 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950
IP&E Holdings is an Equal Opportunity Employer
IP&E Fueling Excellence
Est. Drink. Happy! FOODY'S
Shell Licensee
Shell trademark used under license

# $1M request to buy CUC incinerator granted

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter granted yesterday the request of the U.S. government and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to approve a task order that would use of up to $1 million in funds relating to the purchase of an incinerator that would be installed at CUC Power Plants 1 and 2 located in Lower Base.

Carter issued the order after the U.S. government and CUC requested the court during the proceedings last Monday to approve Task Order 15 relating to the purchase of the incinerator.

In 2017, CUC reported that it ships Rota waste oil to power plants in Lower Base for incineration as the Guam Power Authority no longer accepts waste oil. Rota produces about 5,000 gallons of waste oil per year. Saipan has two waste oil incinerators at Power Plants 1 and 2.

According to U.S. Department of Justice Environmental Enforcement Section senior attorney Bradley R. O'Brien, Task Order 15 would authorize the use of up to $1 million in court registry funds for the incinerator purchase and shipping costs.

In light of Task Order 15 being used for the incinerator purchase, the U.S. government and CUC requested the court to delete the incinerator purchase as a line item in Task Order 13.

Carter said upon consideration of the court, the parties' request is granted and Task Order 15 is approved.

Carter said the line item in Task Order 13 relating to the incinerator purchase is deleted and the funds will be re-allocated as determined by the court.

O'Brien said prior to proceeding with the purchase of an incinerator, the parties have been awaiting CNMI Bureau of Environmental Quality issuance of a permit authorizing the construction and operation of the unit.

O'Brien said that last Jan. 31, the Engineering and Environmental Management Company reported that although the permit evaluation is ongoing, BECQ indicated that it has not identified objections to the proposed equipment selection.

The U.S. government recommended finalizing the BECQ permit status prior to the conclusion of the status conference before Carter.

# ARC starts transition into long-term housing recovery

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Exactly 96 days after Super Typhoon Yutu made landfall on the CNMI, bringing with it up to 200 mph gusts and massive rain, the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter last Monday noted that they have started looking into long-term housing recovery efforts.

ARC-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh said in an interview Monday morning that his organization had already started to conduct discussions with federal partners and the local government to get residential structures back up to standard housing conditions as life on Saipan and Tinian slowly returns to normalcy.

"…Things have stabilized in the community. People are getting back into a little more of a routine. They may be living in a tent or still in sub-standard housing conditions, but at least schools have opened and businesses have reopened," said Hirsh.

"Now we are working very closely with all our federal partners to really try and get some clarity around this path forward on how we are going to provide resilient homes for the community and rebuild bigger, stronger, and better. That is a process that will take another two years to actually complete," he continued.

He noted that emergency response in general has been starting to "wrap up," even for other agencies, including the CNMI government.

"Now, all eyes are really focused on the longer-term recovery work," Hirsh, said, adding that disaster case management programs and other assistance are included.

# Smith to serve 5-year imprisonment

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Esekiel "Easy" Smith pleaded guilty to all allegations made against him and will be serving a five-year prison term immediately.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho said that Smith, 31, will be serving a five-year and six-month imprisonment with six months suspended for an auto-pedestrian incident that killed a person. Smith was given credit for the 180 days he had already served.

Smith, who appeared out of custody, was escorted back to the Department of Public Safety to serve his sentence immediately.

Camacho also said that Smith would be eligible for work release, something he doesn't allow very often.

Camacho said that he would allow Smith work release while he serves his sentence because he appreciated that Smith showed great remorse for his crime. "The fact that you turned yourself in carries a lot of weight," he said yesterday.

Work release means that Smith would be able to work while incarcerated.

Aside from imprisonment, Smith will also serve probation after he is released, and would pay court fines and restitution to the family of the victim.

Smith pleaded guilty to count one, leaving the scene of the accident, and count two, reckless driving.

Smith was represented by Office of the Public Defender's Jean Pierre Nogues, while Office of the Attorney General's Robert Glass represented the government.

During his change of plea hearing, Smith was given the opportunity to tell the court what happened, in his own words, during the accident.

Smith said that he was driving home close to midnight in Puerto Rico and it was dark and raining. Smith said that he was driving around 40mph and should've been driving at a safer speed. Smith told the court that after hitting the victim, he continued to drive away because he panicked and was scared. He later decided to turn himself in because he felt extremely guilty. "I turned myself in because I feel guilty that I hit someone. I know I was wrong to hit someone. All I can say is sorry," Smith said.

On Aug. 19, 2018 at approximately 3:37am, DPS received a call about an auto-pedestrian incident adjacent to the Commonwealth Utility Corp. power plant.

Upon arriving at the scene, officers met with the caller who had reported the incident.

According to the caller, he was heading north when he noticed a man lying on the ground. He immediately stopped to call authorities.

DPS reported that the victim had noticeable injuries, was unconscious, and was partially lying on the shoulder of the northbound outer lane.

Medics arrived shortly after and rushed the victim to the Commonwealth Health Center where he was pronounced dead at 4:01am.

UNLIMITED
4G LTE DATA
SAMSUNG
IT&E
Sweet deal
FREE
wireless
charger
Purchase the Samsung S9 for $99 or S9+ for $149 on our $88 Freedom plan and receive a FREE Belkin wireless charger.
belkin
store.ite.net ite_cnmi ite.cnmi
Offer available from now till 02/28/2019 while supplies last. Advertised pricing is available only on a 24-month agreement on the $50 to $88/month plans. Subject to credit check. See stores or visit www.ite.net for details.
EXPLORE
YOUR
WORLD
IT&E

IN SEX TRAFFICKING CASE

# Defendant resentenced to 10 years in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man who pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit sex trafficking was resentenced in federal court on Tuesday afternoon to 120 months or 10 years in prison.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter gave defendant Wei Lin credit for time served.

Upon release from prison, Lin will be placed on supervised release for five years.

As part of the probation, Lin must be delivered to immigration for removal proceedings.

Carter said if deportation fails to occur and defendant is released pending further immigration proceedings, he shall immediately report to the U.S. Probation Office to begin his term of supervision.

» Original sentence was 19 years and 7 months

Carter ordered Lin to pay $21,517 in restitution immediately.

Carter said in the event there is any remaining balance of restitution after defendant is sentenced, restitution must be paid during the period of supervision on an installment basis according to the collection policy of the U.S. Probation Office, but at a rate of not less than 10 percent of his monthly gross income.

The judge said payments will be remitted to the clerk of court, which shall be disbursed to the victims.

Carter waived all fines since Lin has been determined that he does not have the ability to pay.

Lin was also ordered to pay $100 in special assessment fee immediately after sentencing.

Carter granted defense counsel Benjamin Petersburg's request for the court to recommend that Lin serve his term of imprisonment in Southern California.

Prior to the sentencing, Carter heard Lin's motion to withdraw his guilty plea and his motion for reconsideration.

Carter denied both motions.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe appeared as counsel for the U.S. government.

Lin was accused of luring women from China to Saipan on false promises of jobs and then forcing them into prostitution once they got on the island.

In April 2012, Lin was charged with three counts of sex trafficking and one count of financially benefitting from a sex trafficking venture. The sex trafficking occurred between July 2010 and November 2010 at the Rosen Music Studio karaoke bar located on Saipan.

On June 8, 2012, Lin pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit sex trafficking.

In March 2015, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Lin to 235 months or 19 years and seven months of imprisonment. Defendant, through then-new counsel Bruce Berline, appealed his sentence to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

In November 2016, the Ninth Circuit reversed the sentence and remanded the case to the District Court for resentencing.

Lin, through new counsel Berline, filed a motion last July, requesting Manglona to disqualify herself from his case as Thomas Villagomez is the judge's brother.

Lin implicated Thomas Villagomez as one of the alleged true organizers of prostitution conspiracy.

To avoid the perception of impartiality, Manglona granted Lin's motion to disqualify.

Carter was then assigned to the case.

## ATALIG

From Page 1

a court-appointed counsel and appointed Banes as court-appointed counsel for the mayor.

Banes accepted the appointment.

At the hearing, Banes provided the court additional information regarding Atalig and in support of his motion to withdraw as counsel.

Banes told the court that their law firm's motion to withdraw as private counsel for Atalig in the Superior Court case will be heard today, Thursday.

Manglona advised Atalig that he may have to reimburse the attorney's fees to the court, should there be information that he has the financial means to do so.

Atalig appeared at the hearing telephonically.

Manglona told Atalig that if his divorce decree is final and if they find that there are any assets, then he may be ordered to reimburse attorney's fees to the court.

Manglona also granted Banes' request for a private investigator to assist him with this case.

Banes informed the court regarding the status of trying to locate and interview witnesses, as well as the need for a private investigator.

Banes expressed the need to possibly continue the trial date.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley stated that the U.S. government will not object to the continuance of the trial.

Banes said regarding the issue of continuance of the trial, he will meet and confer with Steven Pixley, who is counsel for Atalig's girlfriend, Evelyn M. Atalig.

Last September, Manglona determined that Atalig is not eligible for a court-appointed counsel. This prompted the mayor to hire the O'Connor law firm to represent him.

Last December, Atalig, through counsel, informed the court that he may now be eligible for court-appointed counsel. He then requested for a court-appointed counsel and filed under seal some documents about his financial status.

Last Monday, Banes asked the court to allow their law firm to withdraw as counsel for Atalig. He disclosed that the mayor currently owes a substantial amount in unpaid legal fees to their law firm, which is representing him in separate criminal cases pending in federal and local courts.

In federal court case, mayor Atalig and Evelyn Atalig are indicted with five corruption charges for arranging CNMI government-funded trips to California, Republic of Palau, Guam, and Saipan under fraudulent pretenses.

In the Superior Court matter, the Office of the Attorney General filed criminal charges against Atalig and seven other Rota municipal officials in connection with a political rally in Guam.

The Ataligs pleaded not guilty of all charges.

## IPI

From Page 1

counsel Philip Tydingco, and vice president for construction Eric Poon in yesterday's CCC board meeting at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Technology Room in Susupe to personally explain their side and to clear things up.

He said that everyone in the community knows what they have been doing since Saipan is a small island. "Everything that we do in our company is multiplied by 10. We deal with hundreds of people. [Another hotel], for example, may lay off 20 people, we laid off 200. Everything is multiplied."

"In this particular situation, we're doing everything to exactly take care of the person that's here. Look at me and my career, the employees come first while our customers and guests come second. It has always been my mantra. In this situation, we're talking about bad information," said Brown.

He wants to clear the record that the workers will get paid on the final day of their work day, which means they will be receiving their final paychecks tomorrow. "They have options: they could have worked, and we thought that they would all go to work because they all need money to go home to their families in the Philippines."

"They can work until today [Wednesday] and they would get their paychecks on Friday, which is payday. If they had personal time left, they will receive that with their wages. Their personal time and their plane tickets."

Brown said the information passed on to the workers did not directly came from them. "The person that actually held that meeting gathered 100 people. You're trying to calm these people down. The person was the Taiwanese construction leader that actually said in the meeting that you're going to get your checks tomorrow and that's where it came from."

"It wasn't from us, we all along said that your permit ends today (Wednesday, the 30th). You work until that day, you are paid 'till that day, your [accrued paid time off] is there, and your plane tickets will be coming,"

He also explained that the workers' H-2B visas have a 10-day validity period that could end their worries of getting branded as overstayers. "You have 10 days to stay on the island and you're still staying in the housing that we provided. The miscommunication piece with that person saying that their checks are due tomorrow, that's something that we can't control."

Brown then assured the community that they are here for the long haul. "That's what crushes me, I also lay at night and can't sleep over these things. I beg the community, we're all in this together. We have a half-built building that we need to get completed and done."

"[But] we have now, hundreds of Filipino construction workers that have to go home. We didn't make that rule. It just happened and now we have to scramble. Where would the other workers would be coming from?"

Filipino construction workers holding H-2B visas need to leave the islands after the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services removed the Philippines from the list of countries that are qualified for the said temporary working visa program.

Brown added that IPI is already taking care of the flight details of all Filipino construction workers. "Some are leaving on Saturday and some on Sunday. They can't leave all together. There's a lot of work that our company goes through between booking plane tickets and getting their checks ready. That's what we've been doing this [Wednesday] morning."

## KILILI

From Page 1

Head Start Act and the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act, special education, and homeless and migrant education. Sablan was also selected to serve on the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment.

"From my first days in office education has been my primary policy concern," Sablan said. "Education unlocks the door to prosperity and a successful life for each individual. And a community of educated individuals will likewise prosper.

"I am very grateful to be selected to help make the opportunity to learn available to the people I represent in the Northern Mariana Islands and Americans everywhere."

The congressman himself was forced to cut short his college education because of family finances. "My own experience makes me determined to be sure that everyone can take their education as far as they can," said Sablan, whose son and youngest daughter are both college graduates and now teach in the Marianas Public School System.

### Democrats are diverse, experienced

Education and Labor Committee Chairman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott highlighted the diversity and experience of his membership, many of whom are from the new 40-person freshman class that gave Democrats the House majority. "I am grateful for the opportunity to work with a diverse group of legislators to build a country where everyone can succeed," Scott said.

"Our subcommittee chairs and our vice chair bring unique perspectives, skills, and expertise to the Committee's work. I look forward to working with them to pursue a unifying agenda that expands access to a quality education, a good-paying job, and affordable health care for all."

Seven Democrats join Sablan on the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee. Rep. Kim Schrier of Washington is a pediatrician with a son in elementary school. Rep. Jahana Hayes of Connecticut is the 2016 National Teacher of the Year. Rep. Donna Shalala of Florida was Secretary of Health and Human Services under President Bill Clinton, and is the former President of the University of Miami and chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Rep. Susan Davis of California has served for 20 years in the U.S. Congress; she is a former social worker and California state legislator. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier of California was also in his state's legislature and a restaurant owner. Rep. Frederica Wilson of Florida was an elementary school principal and member of the Miami-Dade County Board of Education. And Rep. Joe Morelle of New York served as a member of the Higher Education Committee while in the New York Legislature.

"The passion, diversity of experience, and skills my subcommittee colleagues bring to the job is truly humbling," Sablan said. "Many of them are members of this year's freshman class of Democratic legislators, who are already making a name for themselves with their energy, urgency, and commitment to progressive values.

"I look forward to working with Ranking Member Rick Allen and my Republican colleagues, too, on our shared priorities."

### Broad responsibilities for all aspects of education policy

Sablan's subcommittee has a broad set of responsibilities. Within their jurisdiction will be school climate and safety issues, including alcohol and drug abuse prevention; and preservice and in-service teacher professional development under both Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Title II of the Higher Education Act.

Making sure children throughout America have relatively equitable school facilities is another responsibility for the subcommittee. They expect to quickly take up the Rebuild America's Schools Act, which Chairman Scott introduced in the last Congress. The Act would make $100 billion available to upgrade schools nationwide.

The committee also plans to assess and conduct oversight on the recovery and rebuilding of schools in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands following the 2017 hurricane season, the Northern Mariana Islands following Super Typhoon Yutu, and in other areas impacted by disasters. Sablan will take an active role in these investigations. ***(PR)***

# Kapileo pleads guilty to committing homicide

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A habitual offender involved in a fatal car accident pleaded guilty to allegations made against him, including homicide by vehicle.

David Desebel Kapileo, 50, entered a plea of guilty in front of Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho yesterday.

Kapileo pleaded guilty to count one, homicide by vehicle, and count two, reckless driving. The allegations made against him are punishable between 90 days to 10 years and six months in prison.

Kapileo is scheduled for a sentencing on March 13 at 9am.

Kapileo was represented by the assistant public defender Jean Pierre Nogues and the government was represented by assistant attorney general Robert Glass.

During the change of plea hearing yesterday, Kapileo admitted that he was so intoxicated on the day the incident happened that he does not even remember what exactly happened.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Kapileo was arrested for hitting a 38-year-old Chinese male with a sports utility vehicle at the intersection of Chalan Pale Arnold Road and As Mahetog near the Saipan Ice and Water Co. on April 1, 2018.

The victim was pronounced dead at the Commonwealth Health Center that same day at 9:45pm.

Police said that according to a witness, after the SUV hit the victim, the driver kept driving south, then reportedly made a left turn on Mihaville in Garapan. Police found the SUV seven hours later.

Police arrested Kapileo last May 28, 2018. He currently remains detained at the Department of Corrections for failing to post a $100,000 cash bond.

Kapileo is a habitual offender and has been arrested several times since being released on a murder conviction.

Kapileo fatally shot his mother with a gun at their house in Garapan in December 1992, according to court records.

# Man involved in sexual assault case released on bail

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of the four men who allegedly raped a woman last year was released on bail Wednesday.

Romeo Saimon, 43, was released on bail yesterday after his father and mother offered one of their properties as property bond.

The property was originally meant to be given as bail for one of the other men involved in the case but it did not happen.

The property was appraised at a value of $132,000.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio ordered that Saimon be released immediately after all required documents were filed with the court.

Saimon will be released to a third-party custodian who identified herself as his niece.

Saimon is set for a status conference on March 19.

Saimon along with Richmond Ray Keybond, 18, Christopher Aquino Saimon, 38, and Joseph Aquino Saimon, 42, were arrested on July 2018 for raping the same victim.

According to a previous article on *Saipan Tribune*, Saimon was held on charges of sexual assault in the first degree and sexual assault in the second degree. His son, Keybond, was held on two counts of sexual assault in the first degree.

Romeo's brother, Christopher Saimon, was held on one count of sexual assault in the first degree. Romeo's other brother, Joseph Saimon, was charged with sexual assault in the first degree, kidnapping, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

According to police detective Wally Emul Jr., the alleged victim reported that on June 24, 2018, she was drinking with Romeo Saimon, Christopher Saimon, and Keybond because she had an argument with her former boyfriend, Joseph Saimon.

Emul said the victim reported that she was drunk and that the next thing she remembers was she was in the bedroom and Romeo Saimon was on top of her.

She said she passed out and later saw Keybond on top of her. She said she also saw Christopher Aquino on top of her and that she passed out. Romeo Aquino and Keybond allegedly sexually assaulted her twice.

She told police that she did not consent to have sex with the three suspects.

Emul stated that according to Romeo Saimon, the alleged victim was going through an argument with Joseph Saimon and joined them at a drinking session at their house.

Romeo Saimon denied he touched the complainant. He stated that he brought her into her room, laid her on the bed, and then left the room.

Emul said according to Keybond, he was drinking with the alleged victim and noticed she had an argument with Joseph Saimon.

Keybond said his father, Romeo Saimon, took the alleged victim into her room because she was too drunk and vomited on herself.

Keybond said his father, Romeo, took a while to come back and when he opened the door he saw him on top of her.

He said his father told him to close the door and leave. He said she appeared to be asleep.

Keybond said he left the room, but later went back and had sex with her. He said he then heard Joseph Saimon's car pulling into the house.

Keybond said Joseph Saimon asked what he was doing in the room. Joseph Saimon found his girlfriend naked, came out from the room and punched Keybond on the face. Joseph Saimon left the house.

Emul said Christopher Saimon stated said he saw both Romeo and Keybond go into the room where the alleged victim was sleeping.

Christopher Saimon said he peeked into the room and saw Romeo Saimon on top of her and later also saw Keybond having sex with her.

Christopher Saimon said Keybond told him to have sex with her. Christopher Saimon admitted he too had sex with the complainant.

Christopher Saimon said Romeo Saimon and Keybond went back to the room and had sex with the complainant again.

# Two men plead guilty to criminal cases

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two men pleaded guilty to two different criminal cases at the Superior Court Wednesday.

Alvin Lizama, 36, and Bernard Chutin, 35, pleaded guilty to their respective charges. Lizama was charged for non-compliance with the sex offender registry act and Chutin was charged with one count of assault and battery.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja conducted the change of pleas at the same time yesterday.

Lizama was sentenced to one-year imprisonment, all suspended except for the 30 days already served.

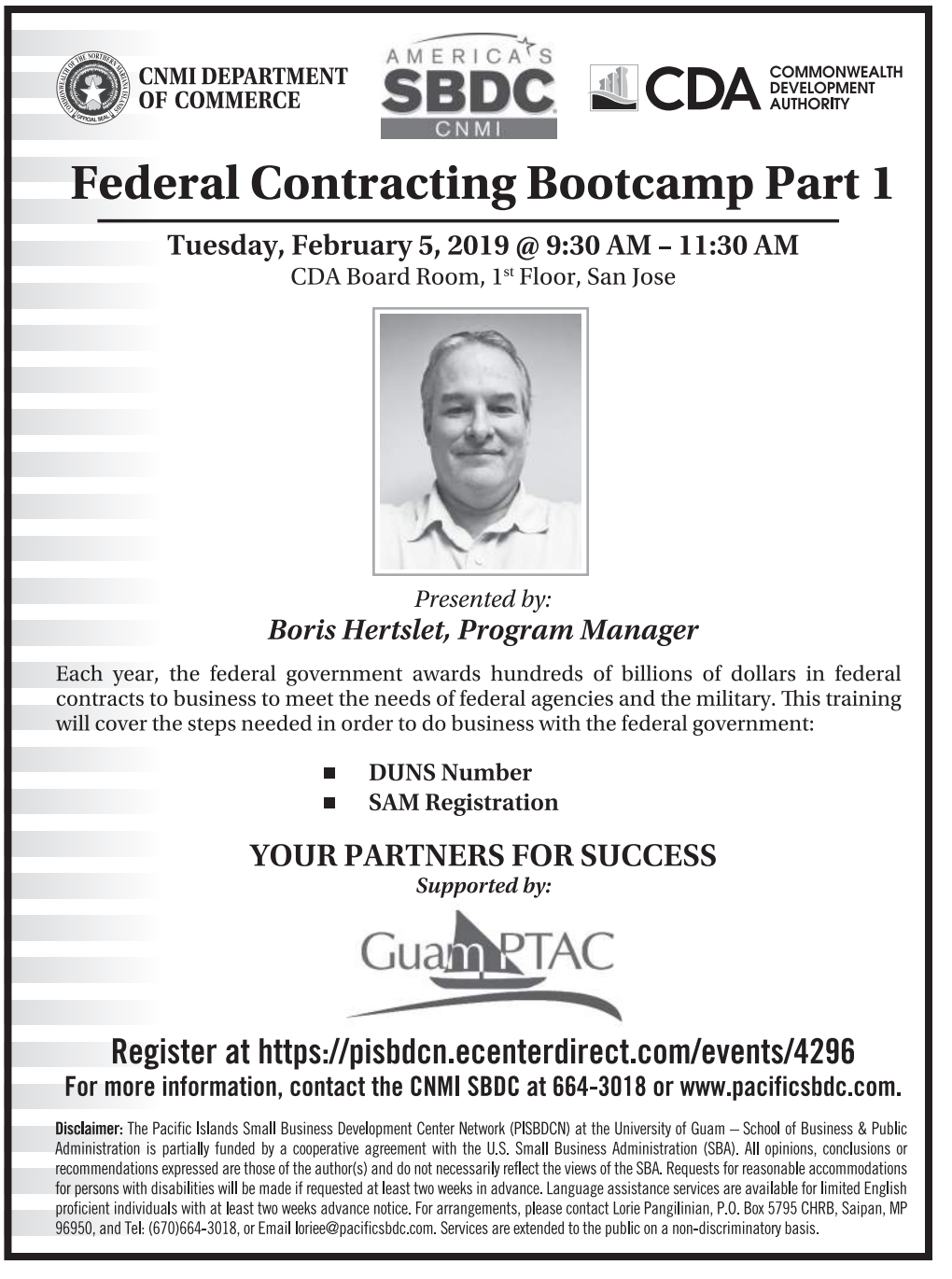
Lizama will serve three-year supervised probation, 100 hours of community service, and pay all court costs and probation fees.

According to court information, Lizama was arrested for failing to update his information with Department of Public Safety Sex Offender Registry Section on June 2017.

Chutin was sentenced to six-month imprisonment, all suspended. Chutin will be placed on supervised probation for one year, serve 100 hours of community service, and will be required to pay over $500 in fines before the end of his probation.

Chutin was also ordered to attend anger management counseling, not to consume any alcoholic beverages, and to abide by all Commonwealth laws.

Chutin was arrested for grabbing a man by the shirt and shoving him against a truck during an argument in June 2017.


CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI
CDA COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Federal Contracting Bootcamp Part 1
Tuesday, February 5, 2019 @ 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
CDA Board Room, 1st Floor, San Jose
Presented by:
Boris Hertslet, Program Manager
Each year, the federal government awards hundreds of billions of dollars in federal contracts to business to meet the needs of federal agencies and the military. This training will cover the steps needed in order to do business with the federal government:
DUNS Number
SAM Registration
YOUR PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS
Supported by:
GuamPTAC
Register at https://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/events/4296
For more information, contact the CNMI SBDC at 664-3018 or www.pacificsbdc.com.
Disclaimer: The Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN) at the University of Guam – School of Business & Public Administration is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with at least two weeks advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Pangilinian, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, and Tel: (670)664-3018, or Email loriee@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

# 'CNMI govt met $17.8M funding obligation for CUC projects'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government has met its funding obligation in the total amount of $17.8 million to complete Stipulated Order No. 2 projects of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Deputy attorney general Lillian Ada Tenorio, counsel for the CNMI government, disclosed that the CNMI deposited $5 million into the court registry established by the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Dec. 31, 2014.

In CNMI's grant funding status report filed in federal court, Tenorio said to meet the 2015 obligation of $2.8 million, the CNMI filed on Feb. 13, 2015, a notice with the court of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Authorization to Proceed for funding SO2 projects for the sum of $2,648,082 for the SO2 Pipeline Construction Project.

Tenorio

Tenorio said an additional sum of $251,988 was pledged upon the CNMI's filing of a subsequent notice of ATP from DOI on Feb. 14, 2015.

With the filing of the third notice of ATP, the deputy AG said, the CNMI had satisfied its funding obligation of providing $2.8 million for SO2 projects.

With respect to the 2016 obligation of $5 million, Tenorio said the government filed its first notice of ATP from DOI for funding SO2 projects for the sum of $3,887,161 on March 3, 2016.

She said a second notice of ATP from DOI for the sum of $382,225 for Engineering and Environmental Management Company's (EEMC) construction management was filed on March 9, 2016.

She said DOI issued a third notice of ATP for the sum of $730,614 for the Tank 103 clean out, inspect, and repair project.

On the 2017 obligation of $5 million, Tenorio said the CNMI filed its notice of ATP from DOI for $777,000 on March 22, 2017.

She said the second notice of ATP for $4,019,000 was filed on March 28, 2017 and third such notice for the remaining $204,000 was filed on March 30, 2017.

Tenorio said the final $5 million funding for 2018 was satisfied with the filing of the notice of ATP for $5 million.

On the status of DOI grant funding, Tenorio said the funding for 2015 and 2016 has been exhausted, while as of Dec. 31, 2018, the funding for 2017 and 2018 grants has not been fully expended and remain available to fund task orders.

On the 2015 DOI grant, Tenorio said the funding was approved for SO2 projects CUC pipeline construction (approved sum of $2,648,082) and EEMC support (approved sum of $151,958).

With respect to the 2016 DOI grant, she said the funding was approved for SO2 projects CUC pipeline construction project (initially approved for $3,887,161), EEMC construction management (initially approved amount for $382,225), and the Tank 103 clean out, inspect and repair project (initially approved for $730,614).

On the 2017 DOI grant, Tenorio said the funding was allocated for the following SO2 projects—the development of a Facility Waste Management Plan for Power Plants 1 and 2 project (Phase 1) (approved amount of $777,000), the Tank 103 repair project (approved amount of $4,019,000), and the EEMC construction management (approved amount of $204,000).

In 2017, DOI approved an additional $110,984 for the CUC Pipeline Construction project from a previous DOI grant.

Pertaining to the 2018 DOI grant, Tenorio said the entire funding has been allocated to fund SO2 projects for the EEMC construction management, the CUC Pipeline Smart Pigging, Facility Drainage, and Facility Waste Management Phase II.

The deputy AG said the CNMI has no pending grant applications for SO2 projects having satisfied its funding obligation under the final order, with the filing of the notice of ATP for 2018 DOI grant funding.

**TINIAN BOE REPRESENTATIVE** JON PEREZ

Philip Mendiola-Long, center, joins Sens. Francisco Q. Cruz (Tinian-Rep), left, and Jude U. Hofschneider (Tinian-Rep) after being sworn in as the Tinian representative to the CNMI Board of Education last Tuesday at the BOE office on Capital Hill.

## CUC water interruption on Feb 2.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be a scheduled water service interruption on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 from 7:30am to 4:30pm for customers along Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road, Airport Road, As Lito, Lower Dandan, Tottotville, and portions of Adobu Drive in Koblerville.

The purpose of the water service interruption is to allow CUC's water operations personnel to perform repairs on a damaged 6-inch transmission water line located on Airport Road fronting Thrifty Car Rental. As a result of the repair, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water services soon thereafter.

For the safety of CUC men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution when traveling through the area or to take alternative routes due to the closure of the northbound lane.

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**AMENDED NOTICE**

**Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport**
**"Car Rental Concessions"**
**CPA-RFP-002-19**
**Request for Proposals**
**for:**
**CPA Concession No. CRS-2018-01**
**CPA Concession No. CRS-2018-02**
**CPA Concession No. CRS-2018-03**
**CPA Concession No. CRS-2018-04**
**CPA Concession No. CRS-2018-05**
**CPA Concession No. CRS-2018-06**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of six (6) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport ("Car Rental Concessions"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for a period of three years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-002-19 is **December 05, 2018,** and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:30 p.m. on February 8, 2019**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of $200.00 (cashier's checks made out to Commonwealth Ports Authority) to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**AMENDED NOTICE**

**Tinian International Airport**
**"Car Rental Concessions"**
**CPA-RFP-003-19**
**Request for Proposals**
**for:**
**CPA Concession No. CRT-2018-07**
**CPA Concession No. CRT-2018-08**
**CPA Concession No. CRT-2018-09**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Tinian International Airport ("Car Rental Concessions"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Tinian International Airport for a period of three years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-003-19 is **December 05, 2018,** and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:30 p.m. on February 8, 2019**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of $200.00 (cashier's checks made out to Commonwealth Ports Authority) to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**AMENDED NOTICE**

**Benjamin Taisacan Manglona/Rota International Airport**
**"Car Rental Concessions"**
**CPA-RFP-004-19**
**Request for Proposals**
**for:**
**CPA Concession No. CRR-2018-10**
**CPA Concession No. CRR-2018-11**
**CPA Concession No. CRR-2018-12**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona/Rota International Airport ("Car Rental Concessions"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona/Rota International Airport for a period of three years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-004-19 is **December 05, 2018,** and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:30 p.m. on February 8, 2019**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of $200.00 (cashier's checks made out to Commonwealth Ports Authority) to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

# BEH temporarily closes 9 establishments

The Bureau of Environmental Health temporarily closed nine establishments recently after water testing conducted showed them positive for E. coli.

Since Dec. 3, 2019, BEH, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have conducted water testing outreach at food service establishments.

A total of 135 food service establishments received water testing on reservoirs or other onsite water sources. Of the total establishments sampled, 54 were positive for Total Coliform (TC) and 19 were positive for E. coli, with nine placed under temporary suspension.

During visits, BEH and BECQ evaluated the condition of onsite water reservoirs including distribution lines and kitchen taps to identify potential sources of contamination and provide outreach/education to mitigate and prevent foodborne illnesses. Common deficiencies that has led to TC or E. coli findings in water samples is linked to damaged or open tanks, mixing water supply with untreated rainwater, and more commonly found, using unsanitary rags/cloths as filters on kitchen taps.

The BEH decision to close a food establishment occurs when the establishment's water testing result is positive for E. coli and there is no alternative source of clean, running water. Temporary closure is necessary to allow establishment time to properly clean and disinfect tanks and distribution lines. BEH does provide technical assistance to these closed establishments. Once these establishments have complied with the recommended cleaning and sanitizing procedures, they are able to request for retesting by BECQ or other certified water laboratories.

For more information, contact: BEH at (670) 664-4870/72/73, or email the director of BEH, John Tagabuel, at john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp. and BECQ at (670) 664-4850 or contact BECQ administrator, Eli Cabrera, at elicabrera@becq.gov.mp or DEQ director, Ray Masga, at raymasga@becq.gov.mp.

Federal EPA's CNMI-based number is (670) 588-4225. ***(PR)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Santa Lourdes Fiesta on Feb. 9

The people of AsTeo are happy to announce that the annual Santa Lourdes Fiesta will be on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019. The nine days of novena will be said at the Santa Lourdes Shrine, starting on Friday, Feb. 1, at 5pm. On Saturday, Feb. 9, the rosary will start at 2:30pm, the novena at 3pm, and the Mass at 3:30pm, followed by procession. ***(PR)***

### MLSC to host probate workshops

The Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. will be hosting a series of probate workshops. These are intended as community legal education to help people in the CNMI understand the probate process.

The first workshop will be Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019, 3pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and will focus on where to start for probate when a loved one dies. The workshops are free. Call MLSC at 234-7729 for more information. ***(PR)***

### JKPL to hold February Kidz Camp

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be holding a free, fun-filled February Kidz Camp this coming February. The camp will take place on three Saturdays—Feb. 9, 16, and 23, 2019, from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

February Kidz Camp is an exciting way to encourage learning, literacy, and laughs. Examples of activities will include arts and crafts, dance, computer activities, and more. February Kidz Camp is open to children ages 6-12, and the child must have a library card free of fees and fines. Registration is required—registration will open from Jan. 15 to 31 (Tuesday-Friday 10:30am-5:30pm, Saturday 9:30am-3:30pm) at the front circulation desk. Sessions are limited, so be sure to sign up quickly. For more information about February Kidz Camp, contact librarians Rosalinda, Celina, or Leora at (670) 235-7323/22, or email them at rosalindaulloajkpl@gmail.com, foremancelina@gmail.com, or leorasablanjkpl@gmail.com, respectively.

For the latest news and events, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. Follow the library on Instagram @joetenkiyu and Pinterest @ Joeten Kiyu. The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays.

Programs and activities are sponsored by the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, and are made possible by IMLS Grant # LSTA LS-00-18-0052-18 and IMLS Grant # LSTA LS-01-18-0058-18. ***(PR)***

# Guam Guard to recognize its 'Best of the Best' Airmen

Airmen, family members and guests will gather for an Enlisted Awards Banquet on Saturday, February 2nd, at the Sheraton Resort Ballroom, to recognize its Outstanding Airmen of the year.

Ten Airmen from the Guam Air National Guard (GUANG)'s four units, 254th Air Base Group (ABG), 254th Force Support Squadron (FSS), 254th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) and the 254th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) will compete for the top awards as Airman of the Year, Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year and Senior NCO of the Year.

"It is always an extremely difficult task to select the winners from so many outstanding members. But it's a well-deserved night of fun and camaraderie for the Airmen and their families," said Chief Master Sergeant John Quinata, Command Chief for the Guam Air National Guard. "Many of our past winners have moved on and won at higher levels."

Retired U.S. Army Sergeant Major Frank Yoakum will serve as the keynote speaker for this year's event. Yoakum has more than 31 years of service in the U.S. Army and the Army National Guard. He is currently the Executive Director of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS), a non-profit military service organization headquartered in Washington DC. Organized in 1972, the Enlisted Association represents the interests of National Guard members, their families, retirees, and surviving spouses to the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill. He is the third full-time Executive Director of the Association.

Sergeant Major Yoakum began his Army career during the period of conscription in the Vietnam war-era, and spent thirty-one years on active duty in a variety of assignments in the active Army and Army National Guard, culminating in March 2006 while serving as the sole Congressional Legislative Liaison NCO in the entire Army, on the personal staff of the Chief National Guard Bureau. His active duty service included postings to Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia, Guam, Kansas, Maryland, and Virginia. For his long and honorable service, he was awarded the Legion of Merit—Legionnaire.

SGM Yoakum was even a member of the Guam Army National Guard, stationed at Fort Juan Muna, in Harmon, from 1985 to 1987.

Since retiring, Yoakum has worked as a Congressional lobbyist for EANGUS; and as a DOD contractor in transition assistance, personal finance education, and compensation fraud. He also served in the Technician Personnel Division at National Guard Bureau just prior to his selection as Executive Director of EANGUS.

This nominees for Outstanding Airmen of the Year are:

**For Airman of the Year:**
- Airman First Class Tovin Mesa (Deployed)
- Senior Airman Sky Topasna
- Senior Airman Danicia Santos (Deployed)

**For Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year:**
- Master Sergeant Jesse Franquez
- Staff Sergeant Felix Fejeran
- Staff Sergeant Matthew Naputi

**For Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year:**
- Master Sergeant Dexter Diaz
- Master Sergeant Bhill Alforque
- Master Sergeant Jerry Hinkle
- Master Sergeant Barbara Tayama

The competition in the GUANG spans the entire year. A selection committee looks at the accomplishments of the Airman nominees throughout the year, including leadership opportunities, community service, deployments and physical fitness. The winners will move on to compete against other top Airmen at the Pacific Air Forces Air Guard level and also against winners from the 53 other states and territories across the Air National Guard and possibly even at the Air Force level. ***(PR)***

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Board of Governors of the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture, hereby give notice that a regular meeting of the Museum will be held on Friday, February 1, 2019 at 10:00am at the NMI Museum of History and Culture in Garapan, Saipan. All interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 664-2160 or send fax to 664-2170.

### AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Adoption of Agenda
IV. Election of Officers
V. Executive Director Update
VI. Miscellaneous
VII. Adjournment

**Danny Aquino**
Executive Director

CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI
CDA COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

## Federal Contracting Bootcamp Part 2

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019 @ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**
CDA Board Room, 1st Floor, San Jose

*Presented by:*
***Boris Hertslet, Program Manager***

Each year, the federal government awards hundreds of billions of dollars in federal contracts to business to meet the needs of federal agencies and the military. This training will cover the steps needed in order to do business with the federal government:

- **FedBizOpps**
- **Capabilities Statement**

**YOUR PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS**
***Supported by:***
GuamPTAC

**Register at https://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/events/4297**
**For more information, contact the CNMI SBDC at 664-3018 or www.pacificsbdc.com.**

**Disclaimer:** The Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN) at the University of Guam – School of Business & Public Administration is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with at least two weeks advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Pangilinian, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, and Tel: (670)664-3018, or Email loriee@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

# Korean actress Ye Seul Han has photo shoot in Marianas

Korea actress and fashion model Ye Seul Han had a photo shoot in The Marianas with sunglasses brand SUPPORT LIGHT on Jan. 17-21, 2019.

The photo shoot will be featured on CJ O Shopping, Korea's first home shopping channel, in out-of-home advertorials, via other offline channels, and in SUPPORT LIGHT's online marketing channel from March to July 2019.

The photo shoots included Kensington Hotel Saipan, Imperial Palace Saipan, Micro Beach, Pau Pau Beach, Banzai Cliff, Beach Road, and Garapan.

"Overall, the production team was very satisfied with their filming on The Marianas, thanks to the great weather at the time," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Han especially shared her affection for Saipan throughout the visit by posted quality photographs on her personal Instagram (www.instagram.com/han_ye_seul_/), which attracting more than 283,000 likes and generating a substantial buzz for The Marianas."

Korean actress and fashion model Ye Seul Han models for sunglasses brand SUPPORT LIGHT in Garapan, Saipan, in The Marianas on Jan. 20, 2019. MVA

The MVA supported the photo shoot as part of their regular media FAM tours to promote The Marianas.

Han has played various roles in television dramas and movies since 2003. The objective of the photo shoot was to promote and raise awareness of Saipan as an attractive and trendy travel destination. Han and the 16-member production crew lodged at Kensington Hotel Saipan during their visit. ***(MVA)***

MVA
Korean actress and fashion model Ye Seul Han visits The Marianas on Jan. 20, 2019, for a photo to shoot for sunglasses brand SUPPORT LIGHT.

## NEA 'Big Read' opening ceremony at AMP

Pacific Historic Parks was awarded the "Big Read" grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). This community reading program will center on the book, *When the Emperor was Divine* by Julie Otsuka.

To kick off the month of activities, the community is invited to American Memorial Park on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019, from 2pm to 6pm. Join us for the NEA "Big Read" opening ceremony at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theater at 2 pm. The ceremony will feature Author Julie Otsuka as the keynote speaker. Following the ceremony, the community is invited to enjoy a variety of cultural performances and activities. There will be free prizes, raffles, and fun for participants of all ages.

The CNMI is one of 79 communities nationwide participating in the NEA Big Read in 2019. From February to March special programs will be offered at American Memorial Park, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, CNMI Public School System schools, and the Borja Memorial Library at the Northern Marianas College.

A national initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. The NEA Big Read in the CNMI is presented in partnership with the National Park Service, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Northern Marianas Humanities Council, CNMI Public School System, Northern Marianas College Borja Memorial Library, Carolinian Affairs Office and Historic Preservation Office.

For more information on this event, contact Jovannalyn Mafnas at email address: jmafnas@pacifichistoricparks.org. ***(PR)***

## Naval Base Guam to extend REAL ID requirement

**SANTA RITA, Guam—** U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) will extend the REAL ID requirement for base access until April 10, 2019.

NBG was recently made aware of the extension granted by U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The REAL ID extension had originally expired on Jan. 10, 2019. However, DHS recently authorized an additional extension through April 10, 2019. According to the Homeland Security letter, DHS has received and is reviewing Guam's certification that Guam has implemented a program that meets the standards of the REAL ID Act of 2005 and regulation. However, additional time is needed to complete the review, the letter stated.

This additional extension allows federal agencies to accept Guam issued driver's licenses and identification cards for access to military installations for official purposes.

In response to the extension and keeping safety and security at the forefront, NBG will continue to accept the following authorized identification at the Visitor Control Center:

- All REAL ID driver's licenses and ID cards
- All Guam driver's licenses and Guam ID cards
- Valid U.S. passports

This requirement impacts individuals requesting access to NBG properties including: guests, contractors, vendors, service providers, and any other non-Department of Defense cardholders.

Passed by Congress in 2005, the REAL ID Act enacted the 9/11 Commission's recommendation that the Federal Government "set standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as driver's licenses." The Act established minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards. REAL IDs require applicants to submit more documents to prove their identity, including a proof of birth, citizenship, and residency.

For a full list of documents you can use to apply for a REAL ID go to https://www.guamtax.com/help/realID-policy.html.

The NBG VCC Guest Services hours of operation are Monday to Friday, from 9am to 3:30pm. The NBG VCC Contractor Services hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: from 6:30am to 4:30pm and Wednesday from 7am to 3pm.

Both contractor and guest services are closed on weekends and federal holidays. ***(PR)***

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### January 31, 2000

#### New scholarship program underway

The Senate has taken the initiative in laying down the groundwork for a new scholarship program which will reduce government subsidy while providing incentives to local students who eventually earn a college degree. Legislation proposing the mechanism is expected to be introduced by Senate President Paul A. Manglona when the upper house holds its first regular session within the next few weeks in order to fast-track its implementation. The proposed program will be put in place of the existing scholarship system which has come under fire in recent years amid funding shortfall as a result of the financial crisis confronting the island government.

NMI still holds promise as a tourist destination

With its magic as an exotic island in the Pacific, tour operators from the Philippines said there is no doubt that the CNMI will continue to attract a huge number of tourists from Asia but the lack of direct flights remain the biggest stumbling block in marketing the destination. According to Bing A. Miranda, senior manager of Baron Travel Corp., availability of the infrastructure and accessibility of the destination plays a major role in surviving the stiff competition in international travel. The CNMI should also inform tour operators that there is no need to get a U.S. visa in coming to the Commonwealth which makes the island more accessible although it is part of the United States.

### January 31, 2001

#### Construction sector unlikely to grow

The construction industry will be flat and slow in the next two years with business leaders keeping a conservative projection on the growth of the Northern Marianas economy due to current financial situations in the mainland US and in Asia. Business analysts pointed out that unless financing problems and certain government policies are threshed out, and concrete efforts are mapped out, the construction sector is not likely to show any significant signs of growth. Apart from financing problems and delayed payments, problems on the prompt issuance of construction permits and certain government policies have impacted numerous construction projects in the past.

OPA: Insurance firm padded bills

The NMI Retirement Fund lost an estimated $313,516 on fraudulent claims and over $500,000 in supported claims due to padded bills of physical therapy services rendered by Megaplus International CNMI, Inc. Based on the result of the audit investigation of health insurance payments to Megaplus International, the Office of the Public Auditor disclosed that NMIRF through its Group Health and Life Insurance Branch paid the company over $800,000 on fraudulent health insurance claims of physical therapy services. Public Auditor Mike S. Sablan asked Fund Administrator Juan S. Torres to expedite the hiring of the review utilization board to prevent possible recurrence of this type of problem and the immediate preparation of guidelines for the review and processing of claims.

### January 31, 2005

#### Governor still undecided on fuel surcharge fee

The governor remains undecided whether to approve or not an emergency regulation imposing a 1.5-cent fuel surcharge fee on CNMI consumers using electricity provided by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. But Gov. Juan N. Babauta said yesterday that his decision will be known in a few days. So far, he said, he still has "a lot of questions that need to be answered." He declined to enumerate these concerns but said it is "basically about the rate." Babauta referred to a previous decision by the CUC board of directors to impose a 3.5-cent surcharge fee across the board—government, business, and residential customers. Following widespread objection, the CUC then moved to charge 3.5 cents on government users and 1.5 cent on business and residential users. The latest CUC ruling requires the governor's signature to become effective immediately.

#### 'House didn't OK salary cap exemptions'

The House leadership said yesterday that it has never sanctioned salary cap exemptions for a few "favored" individuals. This came after the governor's press secretary, Pete Callaghan, refuted statements by House Speaker and Covenant gubernatorial candidate Benigno R. Fitial criticizing the administration's granting of over-the-cap salaries to certain consultants and Executive Office officials. Fitial, during his campaign kick-off Sunday, accused the Babauta administration of only favoring "a few people." Fitial reportedly said that granting over-the-cap salaries is a classic example of the administration's favoritism. Callaghan said, though, that salary exemptions can only happen at the concurrence of the Legislature, including the House of Representatives, as required by law.

# Diocese of Chalan Kanoa 5K Walkathon

JON PEREZ

A participant, seating, gets his blood pressure checked after completing the 5K walk from Kristo Rai Church to Quartermaster Road.

JON PEREZ

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. personnel give participants free check up on their blood pressure and blood sugar levels in last Saturday's 5K Walkathon by the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa at Kristo Rai Church.

JON PEREZ

Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, left, and coach Julian Valencia begin to walk toward the Beach Road Pathway.

JON PEREZ

Participants head out to the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway to begin the 5K walk.

JON PEREZ

Sr. Narcisa Penaredondo, SJBP, left, with Malou and Lito Mendoza and Eydie Uy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants register and get their free shirts.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants do the Zumba dance to warm up before the event.

JON PEREZ

Running coach Julian Valencia gives out some pointers before participants begin their jog, run, walk.

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIX, Issue No. 21

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

## Howard Schultz for president? His focus on national debt, at least, is needed

Former Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz's interest in running for president as a centrist independent focused on the existential threat posed by America's $21 trillion national debt should intrigue and please voters who are fed up with the irresponsibility of both political parties on fiscal issues.

Many of those who are focused on the divisive politics of the moment immediately blasted Schultz in the belief that a self-funding billionaire centrist could hand re-election to President Donald Trump. But the last time this happened, when Ross Perot ran in 1992, Democrat Bill Clinton beat incumbent Republican President George H.W. Bush. Perot got 19 percent of the vote despite an erratic campaign — a shocking showing that helped create a brief era of relative fiscal prudence in Washington.

Schultz, of course, has a long way to go to seem like a credible commander-in-chief; being a visionary CEO is not enough. But if he affects the national debate as Perot did, that alone would be hugely positive. An independent analysis last year forecast that just the annual interest payment on the national debt is on track to quadruple to $1.05 trillion in 2028 — far more than would be spent on the Pentagon or Medicare. At that point, a "death spiral" of increasing deficits and debt is a frightful possibility.

Where does that leave the U.S.? Trump's budgets show he doesn't care about the national debt. Many Democrats support expanded health care spending and free college without clear explanations of how to pay for them. Whether it's Schultz or others, America needs candidates with greater fiscal discipline.

©2019 The San Diego Union-Tribune

## Too early to make predictions about 2020, but here are some questions to ask

**By CARL P. LEUBSDORF**
The Dallas Morning News

*Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him via email at: carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.*

Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard. Former HUD Secretary Julian Castro. Sen. Kamala Harris. Every day, it seems, another candidate enters the Democratic race. Every week, there's a new poll, most showing former Vice President Joe Biden as the party's early presidential leader.

The highly respected Cook Political Report even put out its first estimate of the 2020 electoral map, showing the Democrats with 232, the Republicans with 220 and the remaining 86 as tossups.

But with all due deference to my old friend Charlie Cook, stop already! There is no way to have any real idea at this early date who will be the Democratic nominee, let alone how the electoral votes will likely end up. (Well, not totally true, the Democrats will win DC's 3, the GOP Wyoming's 3, and a few others are predictable!) But not even President Donald Trump's re-nomination is certain now, given the plethora of investigations and the potentiality of impeachment.

So let's look at 2020 by raising some questions that will be answered over the next two years.

### WHO ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMOCRATIC PLAYERS?

Former Vice President Joe Biden, because he starts with the most support. Whether he can keep it — or add to it — will be one of the campaign's major questions, assuming he runs.

Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand, Amy Klobuchar, Warren and Harris. Democratic primaries in 2018 showed a strong bias for female candidates; at least one is likely to emerge as a major player.

Sens. Harris and Cory Booker, and former HUD Secretary Julian Castro. One problem Hillary Clinton encountered in the general election was insufficient enthusiasm from minority voters, especially African-Americans. Expect strong pressure for at least one non-white candidate on the 2020 Democratic ticket.

Former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke. He displayed strong initial support without lifting a finger because he fits the desire of many Democrats for a new face. If he runs, a big question will be: can he meet what have already become out-sized expectations?

Sen. Bernie Sanders. He was the runner-up in 2016, and many analysts believe the 77-year-old Vermont independent's day has passed. But latent Sanders strength could diminish progressive support for Warren.

A potential wild-card. Democrats love shiny new objects. South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg? Washington Gov. Jay Inslee? California Rep. Eric Swalwell? Former New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu? Name your choice! Could an O'Rourke candidacy prevent some other wild card from emerging?

### WHAT WILL BE THE DEFINING EVENTS?

The first debates. Given the big field, any candidates the media acclaims as winners will likely get a boost in money and the polls. One challenge: Sustaining the enthusiasm in future debates. No candidate will likely dominate the debates like Donald Trump did for the GOP in 2016.

The money primary. The compacted primary calendar requires a substantial bankroll, and candidates who raise the most will inevitably be acclaimed as major players. But former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's 2016 collapse shows that fundraising prowess has limits as a predictor.

National polls. Not now, but at the end of 2019. In many past cases, the candidate who led his party's national polls on the brink of the election year proved to be its ultimate nominee.

The Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary. Sorry, California, but with a big field, those first two tests will almost certainly winnow the pack, as in the past. Strong Iowa showings could be vital, especially with New Englanders Warren and Sanders the early New Hampshire favorites. But beware of early state polling: Iowa has a history of big changes in the final pre-caucus weeks.

A factoid to remember: Iowa caucus winners (Al Gore, John Kerry, Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton) have won the last four contested Democratic primaries.

### WHEN MIGHT THE RACE CLARIFY?

Surely after the March 3 Super Tuesday primaries in nine states, including California, Texas, Massachusetts and Virginia, and maybe sooner. Any candidate who isn't in the top two or three after Super Tuesday is likely out of the running.

And if one candidate wins two or three of the first four tests — Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina — the remaining primaries may ratify the choice.

### WHAT ABOUT TRUMP'S SECOND TERM PROSPECTS?

Questionable, at this stage. Trump won the narrowest possible electoral vote victory in 2016, despite polling 3 million fewer popular votes. Since then, he has made no effort to broaden his support, and his job approval has never approached 50 percent,

*See PREDICTIONS on Next Page*

# Social media robs families of human connection

By EILEEN POLLOCK
THE BALTIMORE SUN

I often see a father and son, about 10 years old, at the local Starbucks, each staring at their individual smartphones. They silently eat, but exchange no conversation with each other. They don't even look up to glance at each other's faces. I feel dreadfully sorry for the son, and even for the father who is missing what it means to have a son.

This is to me the apogee of the destructiveness of addiction to social media. I often see people glued to their phones — but a father and son having breakfast together, yet apart, is painful to witness.

I have no involvement whatsoever in social media, never have had. It's easier never to start than to try to quit. I should talk. I'm a true Luddite. Not only do I have only a flip phone, I also have not owned a television for the past 20 years or so. I enjoy listening to NPR and classical music on the crisp reception of my Bose radio. I have no presence on Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram or whatever the addiction of the moment is. I do enjoy looking at YouTube, and when I realized it was taking up too much of my time and devouring space in my mind, I took immediate measures.

Using the computer was reducing my ability to concentrate, and I was determined to return to actual book reading to restore my ability to think and to reason.

I created a special reading space in my living room. I moved in a comfortable armchair and matching ottoman, bought a beautiful reading lamp with Tiffany-style shade and placed a side table for a smaller lamp and a coaster for my drink. There I sit and read, books from my own collection that I have never gotten around to finishing. My new setup is conveniently far from my desk computer.

Speaking of computers, I have been known to ask acquaintances with smartphones what they like about it. It seems to be a convenient way to pay for things, but so is a debit or credit card, or even — gasp — cash. I notice how vague their answers are, along the lines of "oh, it's amazing!" or "I don't know what I'd do without it." I don't think they know what it adds to their lives, or they would be able to verbalize it.

I know what I am doing without it. I'm writing an essay on why I don't need a smartphone. No one has been able to convince me that an expensive form of technology is necessary for my happiness. I rarely even use the flip phone, except when away from home and my near-obsolete landline. I keep the cell phone mainly for safety.

Some of the time I save by not using social media (except for limited e-mail to a few friends), I use going to the library to find new picture books for my 5-year-old grand-nephew. I read to him when he gets home from preschool almost every weekday. This is our quiet time together. He is fascinated by Curious George and can listen almost infinitely to the mischievous monkey's adventures. He has preferences: He rejects stubborn pigeons, and he has reached his limit on Runaway Bunny.

Once I told him, "When you are 6, you'll be in first grade and will be able to read books yourself." He leaned his head back on the sofa, a beatific secret smile lighting his face. He would love to learn to read, I realized. And he will, because his home has no television and no computer either. He has absolutely no access to technology at the age of 5. I found "Curious George Learns the Alphabet" for him, and he enjoyed learning the sounds of the letters. But he is less interested in the technical aspects of learning to read at this stage. His free time — and he has much — is spent with his 7-year-old brother, practicing standing on his head, playing board games and visiting his 5-year-old friends nearby.

All this so many children are missing. My grand-nephew has a healthy 1950s childhood. Not so the 10-year-old son sitting, wordless, in Starbucks with his equally silent father, each in thrall to an inanimate piece of technology. How many parents have lost the human connection with their children, with their friends, with their world?

*Eileen Pollock lives in Baltimore.*

# Pelosi, Trump have few incentives to compromise, so madness will continue

By JONAH GOLDBERG
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

There are those who believe that the president came out the winner in the standoff over the government shutdown. They are what political scientists call very wrong.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi went into that pre-shutdown meeting in the Oval Office in early December on somewhat shaky ground with her own caucus. She had taken flak in the midterms from Democrats to her left and her right, and there was some doubt, perhaps overblown, that she might not get re-elected speaker.

Pelosi left that meeting not just with her own position more secure, but — thanks to an assist from Sen. Chuck Schumer, who successfully goaded the president — with video of the president pre-emptively taking the blame for the shutdown.

Between that and the fact that Trump's border wall has never been popular, it was over before it began.

Many commentators, eager to bolster Pelosi's own cult of personality, have gushed about how Trump has finally met his match. But while Pelosi is a formidable politician, her real advantages are institutional and positional.

Pelosi might be the first political adversary who is invulnerable to Trump's attacks. Trump is dangerous to his preferred targets — other Republicans — precisely because he can sway his supporters, voters and MAGA media figures alike, to turn on those disloyal to him. He can't do that with Pelosi.

Indeed, in an era of negative partisanship, Trump's attacks make Pelosi stronger with her base and with many independents, who split evenly for Clinton and Trump in 2016, and who have largely turned against him and tuned out his appeals.

And because Pelosi controls a Democratic House, she is free to use her institutional powers against Trump in ways that Paul Ryan never could have, even if he had wanted to.

Going forward, this spells trouble for Trump, despite the chorus of supporters trotting out their "he's a chess master!" talking points.

The president has said he would be willing to shut down the government again if Democrats don't give him $5.7 billion in border security funding. But, more significantly, he signaled that if the Democrats don't do what he wants, he will simply declare a "national emergency" and use the military to build the wall without approval from Congress.

"If we don't get a fair deal from Congress, the government will either shut down on Feb. 15 again, or I will use the powers afforded to me under the laws and the Constitution of the United States to address this emergency," Trump said.

Among legal experts, it is debatable whether the president can use the National Emergencies Act to deploy troops on American soil to build a barrier of some kind. That aside, I believe it would be a long-term political and constitutional atrocity to do so. The failure to get your desired legislation through Congress may be a political emergency, but it is not a national security one.

For a century now, Congress has been abdicating its constitutional responsibilities, outsourcing decisions and powers to the executive branch and the courts. The reasons for this are complex, but the most relevant one is that it's usually in the short-term political interest of both parties to toss hot potatoes elsewhere. And I think that's what's going to happen next.

The White House knows another government shutdown would be the political equivalent of Lucy holding the football for Charlie Brown, with Lucy-Pelosi controlling the ball.

And while there are some Democrats and Republicans who would like to reach a compromise, both Pelosi and Trump have few incentives to do anything that will seem like capitulation. Many Republicans have already made peace with the idea of an emergency declaration, because it will let them off the hook for failing to pass wall funding.

Meanwhile, Trump is clearly enamored with the idea, believing it would convey strength and a willingness to fight. Yes, some court somewhere would instantly stay the order, but that would simply give everyone an issue to bleat about.

Trump would save face with his base and have a convenient bogeyman — runaway liberal judges! — to rail against. The move would divide the larger conservative movement while unifying Democrats, who'd scream "dictator!" while quietly noodling about how a Democratic president could use the same powers for a "Green New Deal" or some other fantasy.

All the players win, and everything gets worse.

*Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at JonahsColumn@aol.com.*

## HOUSE

*From Page 10*

hovering mainly between the upper 30s and low 40s.

While no predictor, the Democrats' 2018 congressional victory was unusually large, and support for Republicans closely mirrored Trump's approval numbers. Of course, Democrats could again nominate an unacceptable candidate. And an independent like former Starbucks Chief Executive Howard Schultz could drain off enough anti-Trump moderates to help re-elect the president.

# The best way to celebrate the Year of the Pig

By PAULA MOORE
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Pigs are intelligent, inquisitive beings who lead complex social lives, bond and communicate with one another, are known to dream, and learn through trial and error. They have unique personalities and experience a wide range of emotions. They recognize their own names and will come when called — if they like you. They're also one of the most abused animals on the planet.

As people around the world prepare to ring in the Year of the Pig, let's take a moment to appreciate these often misunderstood animals and consider one easy way to help make their lives better (hint: stop eating them).

When they're in their natural homes — not confined to prison-like warehouses before being turned into bacon everything — pigs make nests, bask in the sun, bathe in water or mud to keep cool, and often sleep in "pig piles," like dogs.

They show the ability to empathize with other pigs, whether they're happy or distressed.

They can recognize themselves in the mirror and can also use mirrors to find food that has been hidden.

Like humans, they have temperature preferences and, if given the opportunity, can learn to turn on the heat in a cold barn and turn it off again when they get too warm.

Pigs are also loyal, and there are many stories about them saving lives. A pig named Priscilla — known for her "prissy, very independent attitude" — saved a young boy from drowning, while Spammy led firefighters to a burning shed in order to save her calf friend Spot. LuLu squeezed through a small doggie door, pushed open a gate and found help for her human companion, who had collapsed from a heart attack. (Bear, the family's dog, just barked.)

Yet many people still think of pigs as little more than bacon bits and pork chops — if they think of them at all — and turn a blind eye to the cruelty and unmitigated suffering that occur in the meat industry. If you eat pigs' flesh, the following is just a taste of what you're supporting:

Most mother pigs are squeezed into metal stalls so small that they can't even turn around, and many develop painful ulcers on their shoulders from the constant pressure of lying, nearly immobile, on the hard slatted floor. Their piglets are castrated without any anesthetics or other pain relief whatsoever, causing them to writhe and cry.

A PETA investigation into a leading pig breeding facility found lame and injured pigs left to languish without any apparent veterinary care. An eyewitness observed one pig who pitifully dragged himself along the hard floor by his front legs until he collapsed, apparently exhausted. He lay immobile for days in a pen with other pigs, unable to eat or drink, and was finally hauled away to slaughter.

Another investigation, at a self-described "humane" pig farm, revealed that obviously sick and injured pigs languished for days or even weeks. One pig ran a fever intermittently for about a month before finally being shot in the head and killed. Others with grotesque rectal prolapses were allowed to suffer in that condition without adequate care for up to 24 days.

Pigs who survive the filthy conditions and intensive confinement of today's farms long enough to be sent to slaughter — usually when they're about 6 months old — are hung upside down and bled to death, often while they're still conscious.

Most of us can't stomach the idea of treating dogs so horrifically. Abusing smart, sensitive pigs in this manner should be just as unacceptable. There's a whole world of vegan foods to choose from, so showing kindness to pigs by leaving them off our plates is easier than ever. The Year of the Pig would be a great time to start.

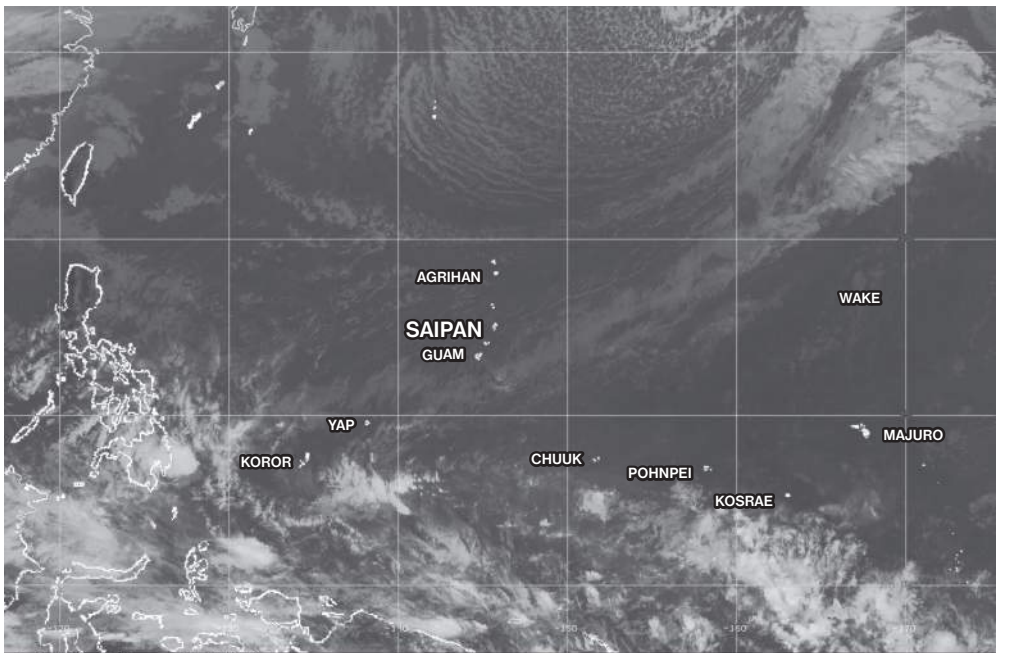
*Paula Moore is a senior writer for the PETA Foundation, 501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510; www.PETA.org.*

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers. |
| 88° 77° | 87° 77° | 87° 77° | 88° 77° | 87° 77° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 8:01 AM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2019**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas waters. The VAD wind profile indicates northeast winds of 17 to 25 knots through the lowest 8 thousand feet of the air. The buoys reveal combined seas of 9 to 12 feet composed of northeast wind waves and a large north swell. There is also some short period energy from the east-southeast.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | ▲ ▼ °F | |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Showers | 84° / 76° |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 84° / 78° |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 85° / 79° |
| Chuuk | Cloudy | 85° / 80° |
| Pohnpei | Cloudy | 85° / 79° |
| Kosrae | Showers | 85° / 79° |
| Majuro | Partly Cloudy | 85° / 81° |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | ▲ ▼ °F | |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | 73° / 66° |
| Beijing | Sunny | 45° / 21° |
| Hong Kong | Showers | 66° / 63° |
| Honolulu | Showers | 80° / 69° |
| London | Mixed | 39° / 36° |
| Los Angeles | Rain | 61° / 52° |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 73° |
| Melbourne | Mostly Sunny | 73° / 55° |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | 72° / 67° |
| New York | Sunny | 19° / 12° |
| Osaka | Rain | 45° / 36° |
| Paris | Mixed | 43° / 41° |
| Busan | Partly Cloudy | 45° / 28° |
| Rome | Mostly Cloudy | 52° / 46° |
| Salem | Mostly Sunny | 53° / 32° |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | 57° / 50° |
| Seoul | Sunny | 39° / 23° |
| Tokyo | Sunny | 45° / 30° |
| Washington, DC | Sunny | 28° / 19° |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 6:02 AM | HIGH TIDE | 1.57 |
| 10:41 AM | LOW TIDE | 1.23 |
| 3:52 PM | HIGH TIDE | 1.79 |
| 11:36 PM | LOW TIDE | -0.10 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:46 AM | 6:14 PM |
| Friday | 6:46 AM | 6:14 PM |
| Saturday | 6:46 AM | 6:15 PM |
| Sunday | 6:45 AM | 6:15 PM |
| Monday | 6:45 AM | 6:16 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | 2:51 AM | 2:29 PM | - |
| Friday | 3:43 AM | 3:17 PM | - |
| Saturday | 4:33 AM | 4:06 PM | - |
| Sunday | 5:22 AM | 4:56 PM | - |
| Monday | 6:09 AM | 5:46 PM | - |

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 21, 2019

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117 | 9:15am | 9:55am | Daily |
| UA105 | 6:25pm | 7:05pm | 2, 4 |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3451 | 3:15am | 6:30am | Daily |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:35am | 8:25am | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 4:30pm | 8:25pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:50am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD396 | 7:30am | 11:00am | 1 |
| JD396 | 4:50pm | 7:55pm | 4 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:30am | 7:55am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:35am | 3, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117/183 | 9:15am | 9:40pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA117/183 | 9:15am | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA117/193 | 9:15am | 11:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |
| UA105/183 | 4:45pm | 9:40pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA105/183 | 4:45pm | 9:50pm | 4 via GUM |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HX077 | 1:50am | 5:15am | 1, 4 |
| OZ626/721 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UO43 | 5:45am | 8:40am | 1, 3, 5, 7 |
| UA117/159 | 9:15am | 11:00pm | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA105/159 | 4:45pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4 via GUM |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA174 | 7:30am | 8:11am | Daily |
| UA104 | 4:50pm | 5:31pm | 2, 4 |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3452 | 9:35pm | 2:00am+1 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3452 | 10:05pm | 2:00am+1 | 1 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 10:10am | 3:30pm | Daily |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ625 | 8:20pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | Daily |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:20pm | 4:50am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD395 | 8:05am | 3:30pm | 4 |
| JD395 | 9:35pm | 5:00am+1 | 7 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:55pm | 2:40am+1 | 1, 5 |

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:40pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA182/174 | 12:40am | 8:11am+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| PR110/UA174 | 10:05pm | 8:11am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA192/174 | 10:30pm | 8:11am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |
| UA184/174 | 10:55pm | 8:11am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |

**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| HX076 | 5:15pm | 12:15am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UO42 | 6:50pm | 1:45am+1 | 7 |
| UO42 | 9:30pm | 4:25am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |
| UA116/174 | 11:45pm | 8:11am+1 | 2, 4 via GUM |
| UA116/174 | 11:55pm | 8:11am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

**SAIPAN TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 7:30AM | 8:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:30AM | 12:00PM | Daily |
| 1303 | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 8:15AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 1:45PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3103 | 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO GUAM**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:15PM | 12:45PM | Daily |

**GUAM TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 1:00PM | 1:30PM | Daily |

**SAIPAN TO TINIAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 1202 | 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00PM | 12:15PM | Daily |
| 1207 | 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 1208 | 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 1209 | 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 1210 | 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 1211 | 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 1212 | 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

**TINIAN TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2102 | 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 2103 | 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 2104 | 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 2105 | 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 2106 | 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 2107 | 12:30PM | 12:45PM | Daily |
| 2108 | 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2109 | 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 2110 | 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 2111 | 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 2112 | 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 2113 | 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

Customers First TRIPLE J

# TRUCKLOAD SALE

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

STORE HOURS: WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 11AM–8PM • SATURDAY 9AM–8PM • SUNDAY 11AM–6PM

## NOW OPEN WEDNESDAY THRU SUNDAY

$69.95 NUTRI BULLET PRO 900W 32OZ. BLENDER REFUR

$89.95 OSTER 0.7CU.FT. MICROWAVE OVEN

$13.95 PROCTOR SILEX IRON WITH SPRAY NON-STICK

$199.95 KENMORE 5"000 BTU WINDOW TYPE AC

$24.95 IMPRESS 16" OSCILLATING STAND FAN *WHITE*

$269.95 MAGIC CHEF 3.3 CU.FT. MINI STAINLESS LOOK REFRIGERATOR

$699.95 WHIRLPOOL 7.4 CU.FT. COMMERCIAL ELECTRIC DRYER 240V

$1,199.95 WHIRLPOOL 1.6 CU.FT. STACK WASHER & ELEC DRYER

$149.95 THD - GLACIER BAY HIGH EFFICIENCY 2PC TOILET

$299.95 ACME-5PC DINING SET

$699.95 BRIGGS & STRATTON 3500W PORTABLE GENERATOR

$479.95 THD - RYOBI 2900 PSI 2.3GOM GAS PW

## HUGE SELECTION OF APPLIANCES NOW AVAILABLE

Customers First TRIPLE J FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS SAIPAN

Scan QR code to LIKE our Facebook page and get the latest deals and products!

For more info, please call: 322-0430

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Customers First TRIPLE J

# TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from KMART

**STORE HOURS: WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 11AM–8PM • SATURDAY 9AM–8PM • SUNDAY 11AM–6PM • AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!**

ESSENTIAL HOME BLACK TRUNK TREE FLOOR LAMP
$27.95

$45.95 GPX BC232R SPORTS CD BOOMBOX

$29.95 SHIFT 3 HOME & AUTO 10-INCH BOX FAN

$55.95 COSCO BEEP BEEP WALKER MIDNIGHT GRDN/MARISSA

$54.95 SAFETY 1ST DISNEY MINNIE SNUG FIT BOUNCER

$49.95 AEROWHEELS ADULT INLINE SKATES SIZES 9-12

WILSON FEDER 27" TENNIS RACKET
$17.95

$25.95 GUADALUPE W/SILVER/GOLD PLASTING ASSORTED

5 SHELF BOOKCASE
$55.95

ESSENTIAL HOME 17 GALLON ROPE HANDLE TUB
$11.95

IGLOO 60QT ROLLER COOLER
$59.95

DEAL OF THE WEEK

$14.95 PROCTOR SILEX 10 CUP COFFEE MAKER

EXTRA DEEP 11 3/4" ROASTER
$1.95

HAMPTON 15PC CUTLERY SET
$44.95

HAND CARRY TOTE BAG
$10.95

NORTHWEST TERRITORY AIR MATTRESS QUEEN SIZE
$19.95

ESSENTIAL HOME 3 TIER SHOE RACK
$29.95

$15.95

TOILET PAPER & BRUSH HOLDER STEEL 31.5"H

STERILITE 12.6GALLON' STEP-ON WASTEBASKET
$29.95

$14.95 STERILITE 20QT FLAT GREY BUCKET WITH WHEELS

PET CARRIER BACKPACK 17"
$17.95

$99.95 DEWALT TOUGH CHEST 38" 63 GALLON MOBIL TOOL BOX

$4.95 DFL DOUBLE WALLED 16OZ TRAVEL MUG

$12.95 BAKERS SECRET 3PC. COOKIE SHEET

EVERGREEN 4X6 ARTIFICIAL GRASS RUG
$29.95

$19.95 INFINIFLO 100FT LIGHT DUTY HOSE

CAMPING TENT SLEEPS 3 PERSON TY-009
$39.95

$9.95 SLEEPING BAG (047A-2)

Customers First TRIPLE J FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS SAIPAN

Scan QR code to LIKE our Facebook page and get the latest deals and products!

For more info, please call: 322-0430

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

# Business

## Apple to fix FaceTime bug that allows eavesdropping

Apple has disabled a group-chat function in FaceTime after users said a software bug could let callers activate another person's microphone remotely.

With the bug, a FaceTime user calling another iPhone, iPad or Mac computer could hear audio—even if the receiver did not accept the call. The bug is triggered when callers add themselves to the same call to launch a group chat. That makes FaceTime think the receiver had accepted the chat.

The bug, demonstrated through videos online , comes as an embarrassment for a company that is trying to distinguish itself by stressing its commitment to users' privacy.

"This is a big hit to their brand," said Dave Kennedy, CEO of Ohio-based security firm TrustedSec. "There's been a long period of time people could have used that to eavesdrop. These things definitely should be caught prior to ever being released."

There is no longer a danger from this particular bug as Apple disabled group chats, while regular, one-on-one FaceTime remains available.

NBC News and The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday that the family of a 14-year-old high school student in Tucson, Arizona, tried to inform Apple about the bug more than a week before it became widely known to the public. The boy, Grant Thompson, said he discovered it by accident while calling friends to play the game "Fortnite."

It's hard to know if anyone exploited the bug maliciously, said Erka Koivunen, chief information security officer for Finnish company F-Secure. He said it would have been hard to use the bug to spy on someone, as the phone would ring first—and it's easy to identify who called.

Apple said Tuesday that a fix will come in a software update later this week. Apple declined to say when it learned about the problem. The company also wouldn't say if it has logs that could show if anyone took advantage of the bug before it became publicly known this week.

Kennedy commended Apple's quick response this week following reports of the bug by tech blogs. He predicted the reputational dent could soon be forgotten if it doesn't become part of a pattern.

"All bugs are obvious in retrospect," said Eva Galperin, director of cybersecurity at the Electronic Frontier Foundation. "The truth is bugs are subtle, code is complicated and sometimes things get through."

Galperin said Apple should develop a better process for fielding reports about potential security flaws. She said the 14-year-old's discovery of the problem "just tells us a lot about reporting security bugs depends on knowing the right person."

Apple had introduced the 32-person video conferencing feature in October for iPhones, iPads and Macs. Regular FaceTime calls aren't affected unless the caller turns it into a group chat.

Word of the bug came as Apple reported that profit for the last three months of 2018 dipped slightly to $20 billion while revenue fell 5 percent from the prior year to $84 billion. Earlier this month, Apple said that demand for iPhones was waning and that its earnings for the final quarter of 2018 would be below its own forecasts—a rare downgrade from the company. ***(AP)***

## China-US row over tech giant Huawei overshadows trade talks

**BEIJING** (AP)—U.S. criminal charges against Chinese electronics giant Huawei have sparked a fresh round of trans-Pacific recriminations, with Beijing demanding Tuesday that Washington back off what it called an "unreasonable crackdown" on the maker of smartphones and telecom gear.

China's foreign ministry said it would defend the "lawful rights and interests of Chinese companies" but gave no details. Huawei is the No. 2 smartphone maker and an essential player in global communications networks.

A day earlier, U.S. prosecutors criminally charged Huawei and several of its officials for allegedly stealing technology secrets and violating Iran sanctions. That followed the detention in Canada of the Huawei founder's daughter—a top company official who was named in one of the U.S. indictments, and who is now awaiting possible extradition to the U.S. Huawei has denied wrongdoing.

All that has further complicated U.S.-China relations amid attempts to defuse a trade war instigated by President Donald Trump and clashes over alleged Chinese theft of trade secrets and other intellectual property from U.S. firms. A new round of trade talks are planned for Wednesday in Washington.

The nearly two dozen charges unsealed Monday by the Justice Department accuse Huawei of trying to spirit a robot arm and other technology out of a T-Mobile smartphone testing lab. They also allege that Huawei, two subsidiaries and a top executive misled banks about the company's business and violating U.S. sanctions.

The allegations mark a new phase in the dispute between the two countries over global technological dominance. The U.S. has reportedly waged a campaign to discourage other nations from using Huawei telecommunications equipment for next-generation "5G" wireless networks, based on concerns that the Huawei gear might compromise national security.

U.S. intelligence chiefs who briefed Congress on worldwide threats Tuesday sounded the alarm about China's efforts to gain an edge over the United States.

"China's pursuit of intellectual property, sensitive research and development plans ... remain a significant threat to the United States government and the private sector," Director of National Intelligence Daniel Coats told the Senate Intelligence Committee.

"While we were sleeping in the last decade and a half, China had a remarkable rise in capabilities that are stunning," Coats said. "A lot of that was achieved—a significant amount was achieved by stealing information from our companies."

On Tuesday, Australia's TPG Telecom said it abandoned plans to build what would have been the country's fourth mobile network because of a government ban on Huawei over security concerns. Last week Vodafone, one of the world's biggest mobile phone companies, said it would stop using Huawei gear in its core networks.

U.S. officials have long harbored suspicions that Huawei could be used by Beijing to eavesdrop on sensitive communications and questioned whether the privately-owned company has ties to China's ruling communist party because its founder is a former military engineer.

# Nation

### TO KEEP HOMELESS FROM DANGEROUS COLD

## Midwest cities scramble

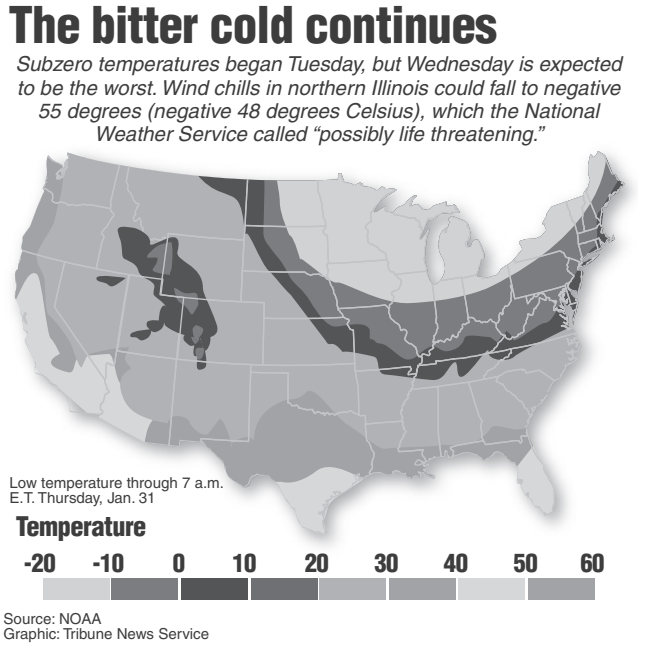
**BISMARCK, N.D.** (AP)—Winter's sharpest bite in years moved past painful into life-threatening territory Tuesday, prompting officials throughout the Midwest to take extraordinary measures to protect the homeless and other vulnerable people from the bitter cold, including turning some city buses into mobile warming shelters in Chicago.

Temperatures plunged as low as minus 26 (negative 32 degrees Celsius) in North Dakota with wind chills as low as minus 62 (negative 52 degrees Celsius) in Minnesota. It was nearly that cold in Wisconsin and Illinois. Governors in Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan declared emergencies as the worst of the cold threatened on Wednesday.

The U.S. Postal Service said it will not deliver mail in parts of the Midwest Wednesday because of the cold.

The bitter cold is the result of a split in the polar vortex that allowed temperatures to plunge much further south in North America than normal.

The National Weather Service forecast for Wednesday night called for temperatures in Chicago as low as minus 28 (negative 33 degrees Celsius), with wind chills to minus 50 (negative 46 degrees Celsius). Detroit's outlook was for Wednesday overnight lows around minus 15 (negative 26 degrees Celsius), with wind chills dropping to minus 40 (negative 40 degrees Celsius).


The bitter cold continues
Subzero temperatures began Tuesday, but Wednesday is expected to be the worst. Wind chills in northern Illinois could fall to negative 55 degrees (negative 48 degrees Celsius), which the National Weather Service called "possibly life threatening."
Low temperature through 7 a.m. E.T. Thursday, Jan. 31
Temperature
-20 -10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60
Source: NOAA
Graphic: Tribune News Service

"These are actually a public health risk and you need to treat it appropriately," Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel said Tuesday. "They are life-threatening conditions and temperatures."

A wind chill of minus 25 (negative 32 degrees Celsius) can freeze skin within 15 minutes, according to the National Weather Service.

At least four deaths were linked to the weather system, including a man struck and killed by a snow plow in the Chicago area, a young couple whose SUV struck another on a snowy road in northern Indiana and a Milwaukee man found frozen to death in a garage.

Officials in large Midwestern cities including Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago and Detroit were desperately trying to get the homeless off the streets.

## FBI finds no specific motive in Vegas attack that killed 58

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—The high-stakes gambler responsible for the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history sought notoriety in the attack but left his specific motive a mystery, the FBI said Tuesday as it concluded the investigation of the 2017 massacre that killed 58 country music fans.

While the agency found no "single or clear motivating factor" to explain why Stephen Paddock opened fire from his suite in a high-rise casino hotel, Paddock may have been seeking to follow in his father's criminal footsteps, the FBI said.

"It wasn't about MGM, Mandalay Bay or a specific casino or venue," Aaron Rouse, the agent in charge of the FBI's Las Vegas office, told The Associated Press. "It was all about doing the maximum amount of damage and him obtaining some form of infamy."

Paddock's physical and mental health was declining. The 64-year-old's wealth had diminished, and he struggled with aging, federal agents said. The findings were contained in a long-awaited report compiled by the FBI's Behavior Analysis Unit, a group of experts who spent months examining several factors that might have led to the rampage.

"This report comes as close to understanding the why as we're ever going to get," Rouse said.

Paddock, who acted alone, fatally shot himself as police closed in. Almost 900 people were hurt during the Oct. 1, 2017, attack on an outdoor concert.

The gunman was inspired in part by his father's reputation as a bank robber who was once on the FBI's most wanted list, the report said. In many ways, he was similar to other active shooters the FBI has studied—motivated by a complex merging of development issues, stress and interpersonal relationships.

His "decision to murder people while they were being entertained was consistent with his personality," the report said.

The gunman was not directed or inspired by any group and was not seeking to further any agenda. He did not leave a manifesto or suicide note, and federal agents believe he had planned to fatally shoot himself after the attack, according to the report.

Kimberly King, who along with her husband was hurt at the concert, said Paddock was "just a sick person." She doesn't care why he carried out the attack.

"How did he get the chance to do it? That's what upsets me the most," the Las Vegas woman said. "How could this have happened and how could we have let this happen?"

Paddock was a retired postal service worker, accountant and real estate investor who owned rental properties and homes in Reno and in a retirement community more than an hour's drive from Las Vegas. He also held a private pilot's license and liked to gamble tens of thousands of dollars at a time playing video poker.

# Asia

## Grenade thrown into PH mosque

**ZAMBOANGA, Philippines** (AP)—A grenade was thrown into a mosque in the southern Philippines where Muslim teachers were sleeping early Wednesday morning, killing two of them and injuring four, authorities said.

» 2 Islam teachers killed

It was the second explosion at a religious site in the south this week, though authorities didn't see it as retaliation for the bombings of a Roman Catholic cathedral in nearly Jolo during Sunday Mass that killed 21 people.

Regional police Chief Superintendent Emmanuel Luis D. Licup said investigators are trying to determine the motive and identity of the suspect in the grenade attack at the mosque in Zamboanga city. The victims were from Basilan and nearby provinces at the mosque to teach Islam to children.

Military Col. Leonel M. Nicolas emphasized the grenade blast was not a retaliatory act and was still under investigation. Licup said a personal grudge was among the possible motives.

The Ulama Council of Zamboanga Peninsula condemned the attack as "an inhumane act" and called for people to be "calm yet vigilant."

President Rodrigo Duterte's office described the mosque attack as a taunt to the government and said the successive attacks on different places of worship showed the ruthlessness of terrorists.

The peace process for the southern region would not be stalled by such obstacles, presidential spokesman Salvador S. Panelo said. "The movement to change the face of Mindanao and the oppressive conditions affecting its people shall move forward despite these acts of terrorism," the statement said.

The official military and police toll for the catherdral attack was raised to 21 dead with about 100 wounded. One of the dead is still unidentified.

The Islamic State group claimed two suicide bombers carried out the cathedral attack, one who detonated an explosive belt inside the building and the other near the entrance. Philippine authorities have named as their main suspect a commander of a local Abu Sayyaf faction that has pledged allegiance to IS.

Duterte said Tuesday that an unidentified militant couple detonated the two bombs, and Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said at least one was a suicide bomber.

Duterte visited the bombed cathedral on Monday and ordered government forces "to destroy" the Abu Sayyaf. The group has carried out years of bombings, kidnappings and beheadings in the southern Philippines. It has an estimated 300 to 400 members, mostly in Sulu where it is holding several foreign and Filipino kidnap victims.

Earlier this month, minority Muslims in the predominantly Roman Catholic nation endorsed a new autonomous region in the southern Philippines in hopes of ending nearly five decades of a separatist rebellion that has left 150,000 people dead. Although most Muslim areas approved the autonomy deal, voters in Sulu province rejected it. The province is home to a rival rebel faction that is opposed to the deal as well as smaller militant cells that are not part of any peace process.

Government forces have pressed on sporadic offensives to crush the militants, and Duterte has extended martial law in the entire southern third of the country to allow troops to finish off radical Muslim groups and other insurgents, but bombings and other attacks have continued.

## US intel heads list North Korea, not border, as threat to US

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Directly contradicting President Donald Trump, U.S. intelligence agencies told Congress on Tuesday that North Korea is unlikely to dismantle its nuclear arsenal, that the Islamic State group remains a threat and that the Iran nuclear deal is working. The chiefs made no mention of a crisis at the U.S.-Mexican border for which Trump has considered declaring a national emergency.

Their analysis stands in sharp contrast to Trump's almost singular focus on security gaps at the border as the biggest threat facing the United States.

Top security officials including FBI Director Christopher Wray, CIA Director Gina Haspel and Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats presented an update to the Senate intelligence committee on Tuesday on their annual assessment of global threats. They warned of an increasingly diverse range of security dangers around the globe, from North Korean nuclear weapons to Chinese cyberespionage to Russian campaigns to undermine Western democracies.

Coats said intelligence information does not support the idea that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will eliminate his nuclear weapons and the capacity for building more—a notion that is the basis of the U.S. negotiating strategy.

"We currently assess that North Korea will seek to retain its WMD (weapons of mass destruction) capabilities and is unlikely to completely give up its nuclear weapons and production capability because its leaders ultimately view nuclear weapons as critical to regime survival," Coats told the committee.

Coats did note that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has expressed support for ridding the Korean Peninsula of nuclear weapons and over the past year has not test-fired a nuclear-capable missile or conducted a nuclear test.

The "Worldwide Threat Assessment" report on which Coats based his testimony said U.S. intelligence continues to "observe activity inconsistent with" full nuclear disarmament by the North. "In addition, North Korea has for years underscored its commitment to nuclear arms, including through an order in 2018 to mass-produce weapons and an earlier law—and constitutional change—affirming the country's nuclear status," it said.

The report said Kim's support at his June 2018 Singapore summit with Trump for "complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula" is a formulation linked to an end to American military deployments and exercises involving nuclear weapons.

Trump asserted after the Singapore summit that North Korea no longer poses a nuclear threat. However, Coats and other intelligence officials made clear they see it differently.

"The capabilities and threat that existed a year ago are still there," said Lt. Gen. Robert Ashley, the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Plans for a follow-up Trump-Kim summit are in the works, but no agenda, venue or date has been announced.

More broadly, the intelligence report on which Coats and the heads of other intelligence agencies based their testimony predicted that security threats to the United States and its allies this year will expand and diversify, driven in part by China and Russia.

# World

## Guaido barred from leaving Venezuela

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—Venezuela's Supreme Court barred opposition leader Juan Guaido from leaving the country Tuesday, a move certain to heighten tensions as the man challenging President Nicolas Maduro's claim to the presidency presses forward with establishing a transitional government and the U.S. warns of "serious consequences" if he is harmed.

AP

Opposition National Assembly President Juan Guaido, who declared himself interim president of Venezuela, speaks with the media upon his arrival to National Assembly in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019.

The government-stacked high court announced the order just hours after chief prosecutor Tarek William Saab announced that he was opening a criminal investigation into Guaido's anti-government activities and requested that restrictions be placed on his movements abroad. The court also approved Saab's request that all of Guaido's financial assets be frozen.

U.S. national security adviser John Bolton issued a warning to the Maduro government earlier in the day urging them not to harm Guaido, the head of the opposition-controlled congress who has been recognized by the Trump administration and two dozen other nations as Venezuela's rightful president.

"Let me reiterate. There will be serious consequences for those who attempt to subvert democracy and harm Guaido," Bolton said on Twitter.

The Supreme Court's order comes as tensions between the U.S. and Venezuela reach a new high, with Maduro accusing the Trump administration of staging a coup against his presidency and Guaido seeking to consolidate an interim government under his own leadership.

Guaido has thus far managed to avoid arrest, and the Supreme Court did not strip him of his legislative immunity, though the new investigation may signal that Maduro's socialist government is moving to take a more punitive approach.

Speaking earlier outside the National Assembly, Guaido said he is aware of personal risks, but added, "Venezuela is set on change, and the world is clearly conscious of what's happening."

"I don't underestimate the threat of persecution at the moment, but here we are," he added.

The U.S. has emerged as Guaido's most powerful ally, announcing on Tuesday that it was giving him control of Venezuela's U.S. bank accounts. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo certified that Guaido has the authority to take control of any Venezuelan government accounts at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or any other U.S.-insured banks.

Pompeo said the certification would "help Venezuela's legitimate government safeguard those assets for the benefit of the Venezuelan people."

## Waste unleashed from Brazil dam on its way to a larger river

**RIO DE JANEIRO** (AP)—A torrent of muddy mining waste unleashed by a dam breach that killed at least 84 people in southeastern Brazil is now heading down a small river with high concentrations of iron oxide, threatening to contaminate a much larger river that provides drinking water to communities in five of the country's 26 states.

The release of the muddy waste has already turned the normally greenish water of the Parapoeba River brown about 11 miles (18 kilometers) downstream from the southeastern city of Brumadhinho, where the broken dam is.

The chief of an indigenous community said Tuesday that Brazilian environmental agents warned his community to stop fishing in the river, bathing in it and using its water for the plants they cultivate as food.

The Parapoeba flows into the much larger Sao Francisco River, which provides drinking and irrigation water to hundreds of municipalities and larger cities such as Petrolina, in the state of Pernambuco, 1,400 kilometers (870 miles) from Brumadhino, which is in Minas Gerais State.

As grieving relatives of the dead bury family members and searchers continue looking for 276 people who are missing, Brazilian authorities and companies involved with river water management are trying to figure out how to prevent the contamination.

Their main focus is the Retiro Baixo hydroelectric dam and plant complex about 186 miles (300 kilometers) from Brumadinho. Officials and environmentalists hope the dam's reservoirs can be used to isolate the muck so it can be cleaned before that water is released to head farther downstream to the Sao Francisco River.

"A lot of communities and cities in different states depend on that river to live," said Carlos Rittl, a director at Brazil's Climate Observatory environmental nonprofit group.

The "wave" of muddy water and waste is expected to reach the dam between Feb. 5 and Feb. 10, Brazil's National Water Agency has said. Researchers from the Geological Survey of Brazil are monitoring the velocity of the mine waste and the estimate could change.

Technicians for Furnas, the company that operates the Retiro Baixo dam, are monitoring the sludge moving toward the plant and its density, and have concluded it poses no structural risk to the dam, the company said in a statement.

The reddish-brown mud is currently moving at about 0.6 mph (1 kph) and is destroying vegetation and aquatic life, according to the Geological Survey of Brazil.

Environment

# Rising sea levels could kill off 500-year-old trees in New Jersey FOREST

AP

The edge of a lake, a former mining pit, now filled with water with a relatively high degree of salinity. The beach is only a few hundred feet from blackgum trees at Glades Preserve.

Brian Johnson at Glades Wildlife Preserve. TNS

By FRANK KUMMER
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Dark water formed an eddy around Steve Eisenhauer's boots as they sank into the muck at the base of a 90-foot black gum tree so old, its roots were deep in this ground when the Pilgrims landed.

Scientists estimate the age of black gums in an old-growth forest surrounded by Bear Swamp in Cumberland County, N.J., ranges from 400 to 500 years, making it among the oldest trees in the oldest forest of its kind in the Northeast.

But sea-level rise fueled by warmer oceans and sinking land is pushing saltwater ever closer to the trees, with the potential to kill them in the not-so-distant future.

Less than half a mile away, hundreds of trees separate from the old-growth forest are already dead from rising salt levels in what once was mostly a freshwater stream. Those dead trees jutted gray and naked into the late-fall sky during a recent hike with Eisenhauer through the remote part of an old-growth forest, which is in the 6,765-acre Glades Wildlife Refuge owned by Natural Lands.

Eisenhauer, regional director for Natural Lands, is cautious about proclaiming an immediate demise for the trees, Nyssa sylvatica, also known as black gum, black tupelo, or pepperidge.

"The old-growth trees are potentially threatened," Eisenhauer said. "But we tend to be cautious in saying so."

Clearly, though, he is taken with the trees.

"Cornell came and did test borings years ago. The oldest sour gums were more than 500 years old," Eisenhauer said, still marveling at that fact.

But it's not just black gums that are threatened. The forest is so remote, it lacks both people and trash, a rare thing in the region. It also is home to a grove of American hollies estimated to be at least 200 years old. Nearby are tulip poplar, beech, sweet gum, maple, white cedars, and other species. The few people who venture into the woods tend to be hunters stalking white-tailed deer. Eagles nest nearby. Foxes, robins, and other wildlife feed on the black gum's fruit, while bees gather the nectar.

It takes a good hour—if you know the way—to reach these time-tested black gums. The only way to get to them is by foot, through deep, marshy woods protected by Natural Lands.

Sea-level rise in New Jersey is, in some ways, as old as the black gums. As far back as the 1700s, colonists noted saltwater intrusion. The state's coastal areas have been sinking slowly for thousands of years, as the Laurentide Ice Sheet retreated. Pumping out groundwater for human use accelerates this subsidence.

But since the 1700s, development, industry, and other human interventions have led to a 40 percent increase in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. In recent decades sea rise has accelerated as oceans have warmed because of carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels. Glades Wildlife Refuge, where Bear Swamp is located, is among the most vulnerable areas of the state to this combination of rising seas and sinking lands. Add to all that another consequence of a changing climate — bigger storm surges that drive saltwater into areas once fed only by fresh water.

Though climate and other scientists generally agree that seas are rising, they don't always agree on how much. An archived U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fact sheet estimates that the sea is rising about 1 inch every six years because of climate change. By the next century, the Jersey Shore will face sea rise of 18 inches to 4 feet, the fact sheet states.

Separately, a Rutgers map of a sea-level rise of 1 foot, the lowest estimate using 2000 as a base level, shows much of Glades Wildlife Refuge, which spans from the Delaware Bay to the old-growth forest, would become mostly water. Already, trees that once were upland are dying along the marshes as salinity pushes in. Pockets of Atlantic White Cedar have already died giving rise to ghost forests.

Bear Swamp is far enough inland that it's been protected so far. And the black gums weren't valued for timber because so many are hollow because of their natural aging process, though they are still very much alive. But the core of Bear Swamp was hollowed out decades ago by sand mining, which left vast, man-made pits now full of both groundwater and water that flows in from Oranoaken Creek.

Joseph Smith, an environmental scientist with L.J. Niles Associates, has measured salt-marsh encroachment that amounts to about a loss of about 5 feet of forest every year in the area.

Five years ago he tested the water in Oranoaken Creek and the lake formed from a mining pit about 200 feet from several black gums. He detected salinity of 3.5 parts per thousand. Closer to the bay, streams and creeks hit 10 to 12.

In November, he tested the water again and the results stunned him: up to 8.4 parts per thousand in the pit about 200 feet from the black gum trees.

"A forest can't move itself out of sea-level rise," Smith said. "Once you get saltwater into these pits, the ecosystem just flips."

The surrounding water-filled old mining pits, once the true "swamp" of Bear Swamp, can span 1,000 acres, helping accelerate saltwater intrusion. If the original land had remained unmined, it would act as a large buffer, slowly draining water back toward the bay. Eisenhauer describes the pits as an unnatural "water highway" for saltwater to travel through.

Neil Pederson, now of Harvard Forest, a department of Harvard University, was one of those who came out for a coring of the black gum trees in 2002 in an attempt to date them.

"The black gum was really massive and I hadn't seen any of that size at all before," Pederson said. "They were definitely unusual-looking black gum, and that made them very different."

But Pederson said it was hard to determine their true age, which could be older than even half a millennium because they are hollow. The deepest part of cores dated to about the 1790s. But that was only halfway to the diameter of some trees, meaning they were probably much older.

"Some people were thinking they were ridiculously old," Pederson said. "I don't even want to say the number."

He estimates that most were in the range of 350 to 550 years old. He said he's seen black gum trees that date to the 1490s and aren't as tall as the ones in Bear Swamp.

"So it really is a special forest just for the size of the trees of that species," Pederson said. "It is a really, really cool forest regardless of how old the trees might be."

Gerry Moore, a botanist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in North Carolina, grew up in nearby Millville and began cataloging flora as a young student. He's seen the damage saltwater intrusion has inflicted on the region over the decades.

"That's always been a very special area," Moore said of Bear Swamp, noting that naturalists as far back as the 1800s commented on the age and size of the trees. "It's a different kind of habitat with those trees that are that large and old. You're hard-pressed to find them anywhere anymore. In most areas if you want to find old trees, you find them in cemeteries because they're protected. But when you're so close to a saltwater line, that's a real challenge. Saltwater and those trees don't mix."

Brian Johnson, who oversees Natural Lands' South Jersey properties, including Glades, stood recently at the edge of the patch of dying trees where Oranoaken Creek spills into the big mining pit near the black gums.

"Everything is dying where the stream comes in," Johnson said. "All of it is dying, 100 percent. And every year is more dramatic than the year before. If you ever have an unbeliever in climate change, bring him here."

# Life & Style

## Sundance: Anton Yelchin celebrated in intimate documentary

**PARK CITY, Utah** (AP)—Anton Yelchin died in a freak accident at age 27, but a new documentary seeks to put the focus back on the actor's extraordinary life.

"Love, Antosha," which is seeking theatrical distribution, premiered Monday at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, to tears and applause. His parents, Viktor Yelchin and Irina Korina, the driving force behind the documentary, were there as well.

The film is a heartfelt and unusually revealing tribute to the creative force of nature that was Yelchin. It is told through home videos, archival footage, personal letters and interviews by those who knew him, from his "Star Trek" companions Chris Pine, John Cho and J.J. Abrams, to Jennifer Lawrence, Martin Landau and Kristen Stewart, who said that he, "Kind of, like, broke my heart" at 14. It's a complex portrait of an artist, who liked to take provocative photographs at sex clubs in the Valley and was also, unbeknownst even to most of his closest friends, managing cystic fibrosis.

After he died in 2016, his parents started the process of gathering materials and even conducting interviews with people who knew him when they'd be in town. By the time director Garret Price came aboard to start the process of making a film, he said "50 percent of it was already there."

Price decided that he'd use Yelchin's letters as a framing device to tell a coming-of-age story through his eyes. Nicholas Cage does the readings of his letters.

"The challenge of a story like this is it ultimately ends in tragedy but I didn't want to make a tragic story," Price said. "I wanted to make an inspiring story."

An editor by trade, Price never met Yelchin, or directed a movie before. "Love, Antosha" producer Drake Doremus, who was very close to Yelchin and directed him in "Like, Crazy," thought a more objective eye would be good for the film.

By no means is his story told through G-rated, rose-colored glasses, either. The film delves into his creative and professional anxieties as much as it does celebrate his talent.

"Credit to his parents, they were very upfront and said we want to give you complete autonomy to tell the story. There was no pressure to deify Anton for an hour and a half," Price said. "I'd done documentaries where estates have been involved and challenges present themselves to showing the subject in the best light. But this humanizes him and makes him relatable."

AP

In this June 11, 2015, file photo, Anton Yelchin arrives at a special screening of "Burying the Ex" held at Grauman's Egyptian Theatre in Los Angeles.

## 'Project Runway' returns with twists, more cash to winner

**PASADENA, Calif.** (AP)—"Project Runway" is going home, back to its original network with several new twists.

The biggest change is new host and executive producer Karlie Kloss, who takes over from the departed duo of Heidi Klum and Tim Gunn when the show debuts March 14 on Bravo. The model grew up in St. Louis watching the original version.

Christian Siriano, who won Season 4, mentors the aspiring designers. Designer Brandon Maxwell, Elaine Welteroth and original cast member Nina Garcia serve as judges.

The winning designer will receive $250,000—a boost from $100,000.

Klum and Gunn jumped to Amazon to start a rival show. Before leaving, Klum suggested Siriano as Gunn's successor. Coincidentally, producers were already talking to the designer, who has sustained a successful 10-year career since his breakout on the show.

Siriano noted the biggest difference between him and Gunn is that Gunn wasn't a designer; he was on the faculty at Parsons The New School of Design.

"When the designers have a red carpet challenge, I can actually give them real feedback because I just dressed people at the Golden Globes the week before," Siriano said. "I'm giving them almost, like, real fashion industry feedback. And I think that it can, hopefully, only help them."

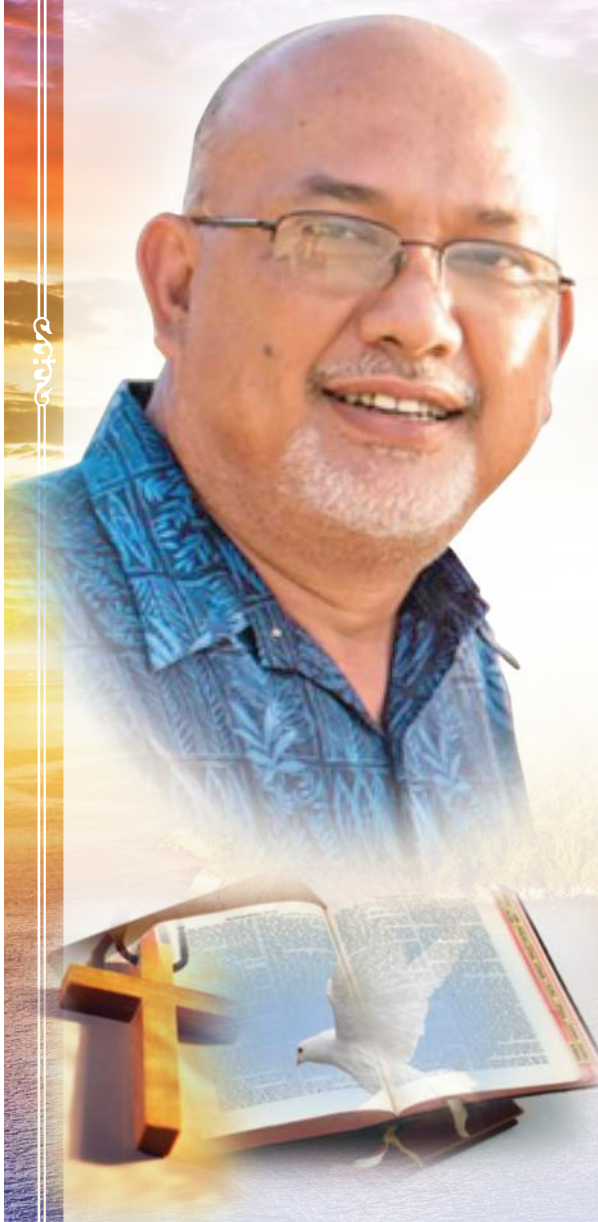
Models on the show will be diverse in their ethnicity and size ranges.

"You will see that we do not shy away from conversations that are happening in our industry and in our world that affect women in particular, people of color, and we are very unabashed in our approach to tackling those conversations head-on," Welteroth said.

Viewers can vote for their favorite design in an episode and then that look will be available to buy at the network's website. If the judges' favorite look is different than the viewers' choice, it also will be for sale. Contestants whose designs are sold will receive a cut, according to producers.

IN HUMBLE GRATITUDE

Francisco Santos Dela Cruz



Faith, hope and love are the virtues of our Christian lives and we do our utmost best to live by them daily.

As we begin to live our lives and learn to cope with the absence of our ***Dearly Beloved †Francisco Santos Dela Cruz***, we the family, are sincerely and forever grateful to our many families and friends, from near and far, who stood by us through the most difficult time of our lives.

Though the pain of loss is difficult to endure, the outpouring support, kindness, words of comfort and most of all the unconditional love which embraced us, have led us to the path of light and trust that our ***Dearly Beloved*** is now resting peacefully in God's care.

Your presence at the daily masses of intention and most especially on his funeral day deeply touched our hearts. We are thankful to Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, Father Ken Hezel, Father Rey Rosel, Father James S. Balajadia, Father Harold Funa, Father Isaac M. Ayuyu, and other members of the clergy for your prayers, comforting words and services. To Deacon Jeffery Camacho and the altar servers, thank you for always serving us. We are very much grateful to the Olomwaay Family Choir for uplifting our spirits with their voices and music.

We are also very grateful to Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, the leadership and members of the 21st Commonwealth Legislature, staff and management of the Tinian Health Center and Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Fire and Emergency Management, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, and most especially to Star Marianas for ensuring the safe return of our ***Dearly Beloved*** home. To the many relatives and friends who have extended their generosity and support, too numerous to mention, you are all forever in our hearts.

Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase and as we part our ways, we fervently pray that God's grace and blessings will forever be upon us. May each new day bring us closer to God and be thankful for all that we are blessed with as we live each day for His greater glory.

**LISA MANGLONA DELA CRUZ, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**
**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF**
**†TOMAS CASTRO AND †REMEDIO SANTOS DELA CRUZ**

# Weinstein lawyers argue against sex trafficking claim

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Harvey Weinstein's lawyers said the movie mogul is not a sex trafficker, despite claims in a class-action lawsuit.

The lawyers in a court filing late Monday urged U.S. District Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein to toss out civil claims by women that claim Weinstein tried to coerce sex in return for movie roles or career enhancement.

Weinstein attorneys Elior Shiloh and Alan Dershowitz said the women's lawyers are trying to stretch a law written to counteract modern-day slavery far beyond what Congress could have imagined.

"Try as plaintiffs might, they have failed to show that this is a sex trafficking case," they wrote of the effort to rely on the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015. The law was written to criminalize and prevent slavery, servitude and human trafficking for commercial gain.

Using the law against Weinstein was an "utter perversion of the legislative intent behind the statute," the lawyers said.

Two New York federal judges already have ruled that the sex trafficking statute can be used in suits against Weinstein, including one who did so on Monday.

Shiloh and Dershowitz said both judges ruled incorrectly on the issue.

In the 2017 class-action case before Hellerstein, Weinstein's lawyers note that one of the women was meeting Weinstein to discuss her music company and her career while another was seeking to work as a nanny. A third, they said, wanted to discuss use of her company's technology.

None of the women alleged that any money or anything of value was exchanged for an alleged sex act, the lawyers wrote.

They said the lawsuit "offers nothing but the allegation that they hoped a beneficial financial relationship would result from meeting with Mr. Weinstein."

The lawyers said the women were only trying to use the sex-trafficking law in their lawsuit because they wanted to take advantage of its 10-year statute of limitations.

Weinstein has denied all allegations of nonconsensual sex.

AP
Harvey Weinstein, right, leaves New York Supreme Court, Friday, Jan. 25, 2019, in New York.

## *Actresses welcome on-set culture changes in MeToo era*

**PASADENA, Calif.** (AP)—Lorraine Toussaint welcomes the idea of intimacy coaches on television and film sets, even if the actress wasn't quite sure what the job entails.

Informed that such coaches help stage scenes involving sex that are respectful to the actors, the 58-year-old star of NBC's upcoming series "The Village" told a TV critics meeting on Tuesday that she was forced to be her own advocate when no one else was around.

"I've been a bit of a Nazi about making sure that it's a closed set and that includes even sound," Toussaint said. "It is highly choreographed. It is highly rehearsed. And then everyone has to go away."

Toussaint joined Jennifer Carpenter of new series "The Enemy Within," Retta of "Good Girls" and Susan Kelechi Watson of "This Is Us" in agreeing that they're seeing changes in on-set culture since the emergence of the #MeToo movement.

"The greatest part of it is many men didn't even know that this was inappropriate or offensive. It has been so commonplace," said Toussaint, whose show debuts March 12. "So part of what's happening is the re-education of men in the workplace."

Carpenter added, "Many men have been really supportive of the movement."

Retta noticed last season's male guest stars expressed disbelief to the female stars of "Good Girls" that men thought they could get away with such demeaning behavior.

"They think it's insane," she said. "I was like, 'Yeah, it's not insane.'"

Watson said a meeting was held to discuss what is and isn't appropriate behavior on the set of the hit NBC series.

"There are some things that are so ingrained because it's been allowed to go on for so long," Watson said. "Just simple phrases of language that we use, we don't realize the possibilities of what's inherent in that. So there became a consciousness about even that, which I found really respectful."

## Some journalists wonder if their profession is tweet-crazy

**NEW YORK** (AP)—If Twitter is the town square for journalists, some are ready to step away.

That's happening this week at the online news site Insider—by order of the boss. Reporters have been told to take a week off from tweeting at work and to keep TweetDeck off their computer screens. The idea of disengaging is to kick away a crutch for the journalists and escape from the echo chamber, said Julie Zeveloff West, Insider's editor-in-chief for the U.S.

Addiction to always-rolling Twitter feeds and the temptation to join in has led to soul-searching in newsrooms. Some of it is inspired by the reaction to the Jan. 19 demonstration in Washington involving students from a Covington, Kentucky, high school, which gained traction as a story primarily because of social media outrage only to become more complicated as different details and perspectives emerged.

Planning for Insider's ban predated the Covington story, West said.

She often walks through her newsrooms to find reporters staring at TweetDeck. Her goal is to encourage reporters to find news in other ways, by picking up the telephone or meeting sources. An editor will make sure no news is being missed.

Twitter "isn't the place where most people find us," she said. "Reporters place this outsized importance on it."

The Washington Post's David Von Drehle called Twitter the "crystal meth of newsrooms." He dates his moment of disillusionment to the Republican national convention in 2012. In the section reserved for reporters, he noticed many watching TweetDeck feeds instead of listening to speeches from the podium or stepping away to talk to delegates.

"Twitter offers an endless stream of faux events," Von Drehle wrote in a column this past weekend. "Fleeting sensations, momentary outrages, ersatz insights and provocative distortions. 'News' nuggets roll by like the chocolates on Lucy's conveyer belt."

Since Twitter is irresistible to journalists who have the smart-aleck gene—probably the majority—a newsroom quip or instant observation is now writ large.

The Covington story uniquely played to Twitter's faults. Early video that depicted Covington student Nick Sandmann staring down Native American activist Nathan Phillips spread rapidly across social media and many people rushed to offer their takes. An event that may have otherwise gone unnoticed instantly became a story by virtue of its existence online.

Yet when a wider picture emerged of what happened, in some respects quite literally from the view of a wider camera lens, a story that seemed black and white became gray. Some of the early opinions became embarrassing and were quietly deleted. But since there's no such thing as a quiet deletion when people are watching online, the incident became fodder for another outbreak of partisan warfare.

The episode led Farhad Manjoo, a columnist for The New York Times, to declare Twitter "the world's most damaging social network."

In a column, he said he plans to stifle the urge to quickly type his opinion on every news event and suggested others follow his lead. Between mistakes and overly provocative opinions, too much can go wrong for journalists on Twitter, he said in an interview.

"In order to be good on Twitter, you have to be authentic," he said. "But authenticity is also dangerous. It leads people to make assumptions about you. It can go bad in different ways."

Perhaps it's inevitable at a time that Twitter needs to be constantly monitored because it is one of the president of the United States' favorite forms of communications, but Manjoo said too often reporters spend more time in the virtual world than the real one.

"The way the media works now, we've just gone overboard on Twitter," he said.

Days after Covington, some news outlets proved his point by writing stories about NBC "Today" show host Savannah Guthrie's interview with Sandmann that were nothing but collections of Twitter comments about how she did. Some tweeters thought Guthrie was too hard on him. Some thought she was too soft. Simply by nature of the forum, few who thought it was just right bothered posting.

Media experts wary of Twitter quitters said a distinction between the platform and how people use it should not be lost.

"I really don't think it's so hard to avoid commenting on a moving story when the facts are not clear," said Jay Rosen, a New York University journalism professor.

Leaving Twitter means cutting off a valuable news source since many newsmakers use the venue to make announcements, he said. It's also an equalizer in giving access to a virtual town square to people who might otherwise be overlooked, said news consultant Jeff Jarvis.

"Journalists should be looking for every possible means to listen better to the public," Jarvis said. "If you cut yourself off, it's ridiculous."

Some have done that, or tried. Manjoo's colleague at The Times, White House correspondent Maggie Haberman, wrote last July about how she was stepping back from Twitter after nearly nine years and 187,000 tweets.

"The viciousness, toxic partisan anger, intellectual dishonesty, motive-questioning and sexism are at all-time highs, with no end in sight," she wrote. "It is a place where people who are unquestionably upset about any number of things go to feed their anger, where the underbelly of free speech is at its most bilious. Twitter is now an anger video game for many users."

Haberman predicted she would eventually re-engage with Twitter but in a different way. She's back; she tweeted five times and retweeted links six times by 10 a.m. Tuesday. She's up to 194,000 tweets and has a following of more than a million people. She declined a request for an interview about how the experience changed her.

# Actress Gwyneth Paltrow sued over Utah ski crash

**SALT LAKE CITY** (AP)—Actress Gwyneth Paltrow has been accused in a new lawsuit Tuesday of breaking a man's ribs and leaving him with a concussion when she smashed into him from behind while skiing at a Utah ski resort in 2016.

Retired optometrist Terry Sanderson, 72, said during a news conference in Salt Lake City that he heard a "hysterical scream" and was then struck between his shoulder blades on a beginner run at Deer Valley Resort on Feb. 26, 2016. He remembers being thrown forward and losing control of his body before losing consciousness. An acquaintance who witnessed the events said he saw Paltrow hit him squarely in the back.

AP

Salt Lake City attorney Robert Sykes, right, and plaintiff Terry Sanderson talking during a court hearing at 3rd District Court in Summit County, Salt Lake City, Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019.

Paltrow denied the claims through spokeswoman Heather Wilson, who said in an emailed statement: "This lawsuit is without merit and we expect to be vindicated."

Sanderson claims in the lawsuit that the 46-year-old actress left him injured on the mountain and didn't send for help. The ski instructor skiing with Paltrow and her family and friends filed a false incident report saying Paltrow didn't cause the crash, the lawsuit says.

Deer Valley Resort spokeswoman Emily Summers said the resort can't comment on pending legal matters. The resort is also being sued.

Paltrow is known for her roles in "Shakespeare in Love" and the "Iron Man" movies. She also owns a lifestyle company called goop.

Sanderson said it took him nearly three years to file a lawsuit because he dragged his feet, ran into problems with previous attorneys and was dealing with inability to function properly because of the concussion.

He said he has been in contact with an attorney representing Paltrow, but he has never been offered any compensation or an apology. They have even suggested he could be sued, Sanderson said.

Sanderson's lawsuit seeks $3.1 million in damages, but he denies he's suing because Paltrow is a famous and rich celebrity. He called it an unkind gesture not to stick around or ever apologize for what happened.

"I would like to be vindicated," said Sanderson, now 72. "I would like my truth to be told."

Attorneys for Sanderson said Paltrow's attorneys don't deny she was involved in a crash, but dispute her culpability, said lawyer Robert Sykes, who represents Sanderson.

The office for the attorney representing Paltrow in the case, Stephen Owens of Salt Lake City, declined comment and referred inquiries to Paltrow's spokeswoman.

# 'Empire' cast member alleges homophobic attack in Chicago

**CHICAGO** (AP)—A cast member on the hit television show "Empire" alleged he was physically attacked by men in Chicago who shouted racial and homophobic slurs, police said Tuesday.

Police did not release the actor's name but a statement from Fox, which airs "Empire," identified him as Jussie Smollett, 36. Authorities said they are investigating the alleged attack as a hate crime. Smollett is black and openly gay.

According to a police statement, the actor was walking near the Chicago River downtown around 2 a.m. Tuesday when he was approached by two men who shouted at him, struck him in the face and poured an "unknown substance" on him before one of them wrapped a rope around his neck.

Police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said that when officers first came in contact with Smollett, he still had a rope around his neck. While being interviewed by detectives, Guglielmi said Smollett told them that the attackers yelled he was in "MAGA country," an apparent reference to the Trump campaign's "Make America Great Again" slogan that some critics of the president have decried as racist and discriminatory.

The police spokesman added that the two men were wearing masks. Investigators have not found any surveillance video or witnesses from which they can put together a description of the offenders, he said.

Smollett was able to take himself to Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He was last reported in good condition.

Guglielmi also said the FBI is investigating a threatening letter targeting Smollett that was sent to the Fox studio in Chicago last week.

The hourlong drama "Empire" follows an African-American family as they navigate the ups and downs of the record industry. Jamal Lyon, Smollett's character, is the gay, middle son of Empire Entertainment founder Lucious Lyon and Cookie Lyon, played by Terrence Howard and Taraji P. Henson, respectively.

Twentieth Century Fox Television and Fox Entertainment released a statement Tuesday in support of Smollett. "The entire studio, network and production stands united in the face of any despicable act of violence," the statement read.

"Empire" co-creator Lee Daniels also voiced his support for Smollett in an Instagram video.

"You didn't deserve, nor anybody deserves, to have a noose put around your neck," Daniels said. "You are better than that, we are better than that, America is better than that."

California Sen. Kamala Harris, a 2020 Democratic presidential hopeful, knows Smollett personally and called the attack "outrageous" and "awful."

# Maroon 5 cancels Super Bowl halftime news conference

**ATLANTA** (AP)—Maroon 5 has canceled its news conference to discuss the band's Super Bowl halftime performance, choosing to not meet with reporters as most acts have done.

The NFL announced Tuesday that "the artists will let their show do the talking as they prepare to take the stage this Sunday."

Maroon 5, with frontman Adam Levine, will be joined by Outkast member Big Boi and Houston rapper Travis Scott at halftime of the game between the Los Angeles Rams and New England Patriots. The NFL says instead of a news conference with the performers, it will use media platforms to show behind-the-scenes footage and content.

While Maroon 5 did not give a reason for its decision, it comes as some entertainers have said social injustice needs to be addressed during the Super Bowl.

That has led to some criticism of performers who are holding events in Atlanta. Jermaine Dupri said he was called a "sellout" for hosting a Super Bowl-related event during a meeting with people who had lost family members as result of police brutality. After the meeting, Dupri and the victims' family members came to a compromise and the music mogul plans to give mothers a platform to speak onstage during his Super Bowl Live event in Atlanta

Former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick helped start a wave of protests by kneeling during the national anthem to raise awareness to police brutality, racial inequality and other social issues.

# Last rites for dying wife were comfort to her family

DEAR ABBY: My wife, a convert to reform Judaism, died this past year. The day before she passed, while she was in a coma, Roman Catholic family members asked if they could bring in a priest. I said OK because I knew it meant a lot to them. A priest came and administered last rites. (My wife was born and raised a Catholic.)

I have been having serious second thoughts about my decision. Nobody outside my family knows about this. Did I make the right call, or should I have politely told my wife's family that I could not agree to their request?

TROUBLED REFORM JEW

**DEAR TROUBLED: Your wife, who had converted to Judaism, was comatose. What happened at her bedside made no difference to her at that point. It was kind and generous of you to allow the priest to come for the sake of your in-laws. You did it for the right reasons, so please do not second-guess yourself now. What happened does not impugn the authenticity of the Jewish rites that you used to bury her.**

**DEAR ABBY:** A year ago, my friend "Stephanie" decided to stop cutting hair as her second job. She had done mine, my husband's and our son's hair for years. We switched to a stylist she referred us to and have been satisfied with the service.

We just found out Stephanie is going to start cutting hair again, and my husband and I want to switch back to seeing her. The sticky part is, we already have appointments with the new person, and Stephanie's going to be working at the same salon where she referred us. Is it rude to call and ask to switch our stylist knowing that we will be seeing both of them in the same place?

TENTATIVE IN THE MIDWEST

**DEAR TENTATIVE: No, it is not rude. Tell your new stylist that you have decided to go back to Stephanie in light of your long relationship. Make the switch as cordial as possible. Explain that it has nothing to do with the quality of the stylists' work. When you visit the salon, be friendly to both stylists. That way, if Stephanie decides to quit cutting hair again or even takes a vacation, you will have someone to fall back on.**

**DEAR ABBY:** I have read your column for years and notice that many of the letters come from people who let others run roughshod over them or do things to them they are not happy with. My suggestion is a simple adage that has helped me through life: "People can only do to you what you ALLOW them to do to you."

I realize this may not be a panacea for all situations, and for those who have difficulty asserting themselves it may not come easy. But folks will continue doing to you what you allow them to do until you say no. What do you think, Abby?

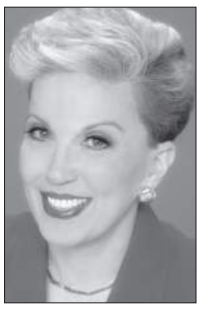
KIP IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

**DEAR KIP: I think your mantra is a helpful reminder for those who need it. However, many individuals need more support than that, and for them I would recommend assertiveness training because one of the hardest words in the English language to say is NO.**

*To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

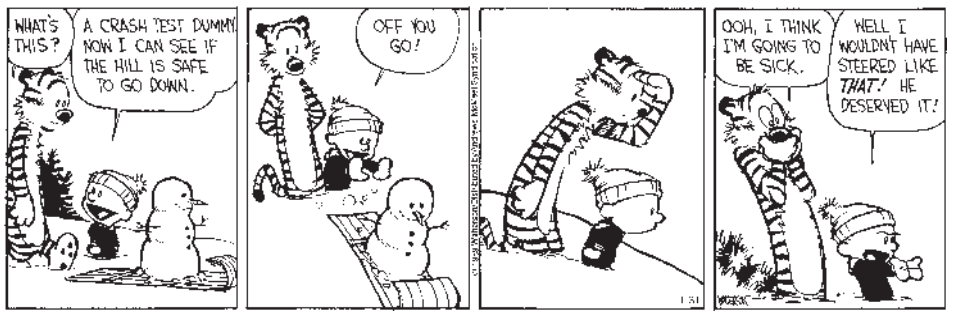


*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

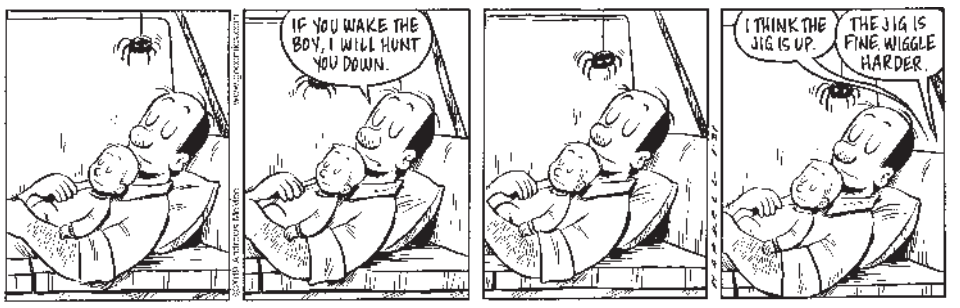

WHAT'S THIS?
A CRASH TEST DUMMY. NOW I CAN SEE IF THE HILL IS SAFE TO GO DOWN.
OFF YOU GO!
OOH, I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK.
WELL I WOULDN'T HAVE STEERED LIKE THAT.' HE DESERVED IT!

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

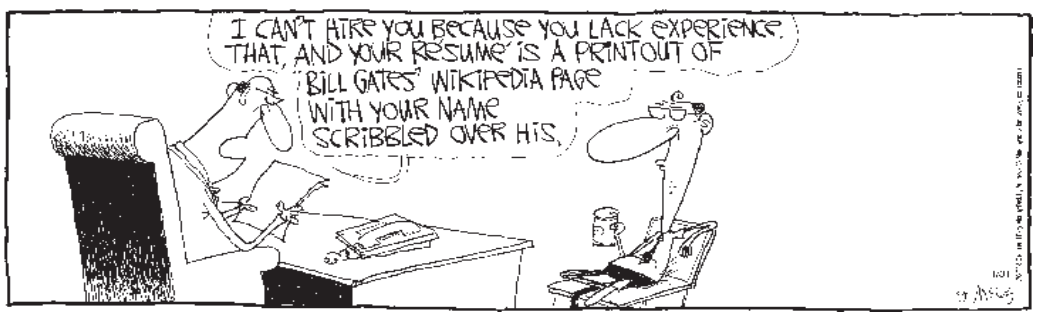
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset




## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I CAN'T HIRE YOU BECAUSE YOU LACK EXPERIENCE. THAT, AND YOUR RESUME IS A PRINTOUT OF BILL GATES' WIKIPEDIA PAGE WITH YOUR NAME SCRIBBLED OVER HIS.

## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

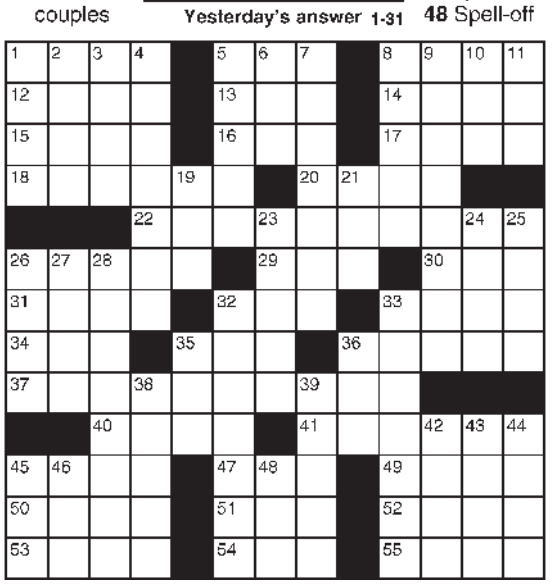
1 Pack cargo
5 Billboards
8 On — with
12 Vagrant
13 Old Oldsmobile
14 TV's "Warrior Princess"
15 Actress Falco
16 Rep.'s rival
17 Apple product
18 Criminal's "why"
20 Latin love
22 Whiskey variety
26 Dishonor
29 Succor
30 Blue
31 Runner's tempo
32 Greek H
33 "Three Sisters" sister
34 Last (Abbr.)
35 Nay undoer
36 Void
37 Outing for two couples
40 Bedouin
41 Boston athlete
45 Wrinkly fruit
47 Dhabi preceder
49 "— la Douce"
50 Thaw
51 Allow
52 Pants part
53 Adams and Schumer
54 Grant's foe
55 Vegas game

**DOWN**

1 Son of Noah
2 Commotion
3 Life story
4 "Alas ..."
5 "As You Like It" setting
6 Actor Billy — Williams
7 Neighbor of Kenya
8 Self-evident truth
9 Pre-game morale booster
10 Year in Spain
11 "Awesome!"
19 Compete
21 Club —
23 Like some exclusive communities
24 Cabin components
25 "— the night before ..."
26 Tater
27 Head light?
28 In reality
32 Size up
33 Washington Monument, e.g.
35 Carte lead-in
36 Chowed down
38 Londoners, e.g.
39 Keen
42 Nest setting
43 One-named supermodel
44 Roman censor
45 Actress Thurman
46 Tiara sparkler
48 Spell-off

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 1-31



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Marcus Mumford, 32; Justin Timberlake, 38; Kerry Washington, 42; Portia de Rossi, 46.

**Happy Birthday:** Follow your heart and your head, and let your will lead you to victory. Reach out to those who have something to offer and are willing to share. Collaboration will encourage new beginnings that can improve your standard of living. Embrace change, and be prepared to take physical action in order to turn your dream into a reality. Strive for equality. Your numbers are 7, 12, 20, 27, 33, 41, 46.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Observe, but don't feel you have to agree with what's taking place. Concentrate on personal gains, physical and emotional health and using your skills and experience to get ahead. A colleague will offer valuable information. Romance will enhance your life. ✪✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Keep moving. Refuse to let what others do or say get to you. Progress will be made if you work alone and you refuse to let anything or anyone stand between you and finishing what you start. Let experience guide you. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* You'll be drawn to charismatic, intelligent people. Focus on collaborating and fleshing out ideas that can help you turn a project you are working on into something tangible. Personal matters will take favorable turns and provide new opportunities. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Your intent should be to stabilize your life, not add to the confusion. If someone is being erratic, you are best to remove yourself from the equation. Stick to those offering something consistent and of interest to you. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Networking will change the way you think, how you perform and what you do next. An interesting conversation will lead to an opportunity to partner with someone who has as much to offer as you. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Stay focused on what you are trying to accomplish. Refuse to let personal or domestic problems stifle your productivity. Someone you thought you could trust will let you down. Ask an expert how best to handle a messy situation. ✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Personal improvements will lift your spirits, boost your confidence and put you in the running for a positive change. Share your ideas, and make the changes that will bring you the satisfaction and happiness you long for and deserve. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Think before you speak. You will be tempted to disagree if someone is evasive or exaggerating. Don't let anyone bait you into saying something you'll regret. Focus on a creative project and gaining experience and knowledge that will help you advance. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Stick to the truth. If you promise too much or you exaggerate, someone will hold you accountable. If you want change, go about getting it yourself. Don't rely on anyone to help. Do the job yourself and reap the rewards. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't get angry about the changes going on around you. Focus on doing your own thing and adapting what you do to fit the current climate. It's how you react that will make a difference in the outcome. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* What you do for others will be appreciated and rewarded. Your enthusiasm will make a difference to someone who needs reassurance. Personal gains and improvements will lead to unique opportunities. Celebrate your success with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Listen, but don't do something based on what someone tells you. Research and facts will spare you from making a mistake that could cost you financially, emotionally or physically. When in doubt, talk to the experts and get more than one opinion. ✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are engaging, open-minded and fair. You are spirited and humorous.

*To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| | 9 | 6 | | | | | 5 | |
| | | 8 | | 7 | | 4 | 3 | |
| | | | 3 | | 9 | | | |
| | | 2 | | | | 6 | | |
| | | | 8 | | 1 | | | |
| | 8 | 3 | | 5 | | 7 | | |
| | 7 | | | | | 8 | 1 | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | 9 |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/31

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Last Friday's Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 |
| 5 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 3 |
| 7 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| 8 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 7 |
| 4 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 4 |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 24

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

COLLECTING STICKERS Solution: 5 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | D | B | D | E | S | I | G | N | A | R | T | Ⓢ | Y | S |
| E | E | U | S | D | I | N | O | S | A | U | R | Ⓖ | M | S |
| M | T | M | Y | T | I | V | I | T | C | A | S | Ⓤ | H | E |
| M | S | P | O | D | R | P | L | S | C | H | B | Ⓑ | N | R |
| I | A | E | A | V | L | A | P | I | E | L | O | T | E | U |
| H | P | R | N | A | A | E | E | E | A | A | L | A | R | T |
| S | T | E | S | I | C | B | T | H | B | M | E | G | D | C |
| T | W | T | B | I | H | S | L | Y | N | I | V | S | L | I |
| I | I | O | A | R | Y | S | P | E | J | N | R | E | I | P |
| C | O | L | R | M | A | E | S | O | Y | A | A | P | H | R |
| K | T | T | B | D | E | N | M | L | R | E | M | A | C | I |
| Y | R | O | L | L | S | E | D | B | A | A | N | H | O | N |
| Y | L | O | G | O | O | F | Y | F | A | C | E | S | M | T |
| S | S | T | R | O | P | S | I | Z | E | S | E | L | I | E |
| A | D | H | E | R | E | R | O | T | S | T | O | D | C | D |

© 2019 Tribune Media Services, Inc. www.wonderwordpuzzles.com 1/31

Activity, Adhere, Albums, Animal, Artsy, Book, Brand, Bugs, Bumper, Cars, Children, Clear, Comic, Decals, Design, Dinosaur, Disney, Dots, Emoji, Goofy Faces, Hearts, Mail, Marvel, Pasted, Peel, Pictures, Plastic, Printed, Removable, Rolls, Sets, Shapes, Sheets, Shimmer, Shine, Sizes, Specialty, Sports, Sticky, Store, Symbols, Tags, Tooth, Trading, Vinyl, Words

**Yesterday's Answer: Choice**

The NEW **Volume 55** can be purchased online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

For positive results.
PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!
Please contact us at 235-6397

**B & L CORPORATION**

(1) Diesel Engine Mechanic
At least 3 years experience
in Overhauling Diesel Engine
Contact Person: Leila Bais
Contact Number : 235-2567

Philpan International Inc.
**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**
Need **(1) Sales Representative**
At least 3 years experience
in sales and marketing
Knowledgeable
in Peach Tree Invoicing
Contact Number 783-0367

## Legislative Bureau

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-19-002**
**Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arm**
**PL-UNGRADED: $ 816.12 B/W**
**$ 21,219.07 Annual**
**Opening Date: January 31, 2019**
**Closing Date: February 21, 2019**

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee

**Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan**

General Duties:
- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Must complete a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- May undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.
- Undergo a pre-employment drug test

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
for more news, value and information.

SUBSCRIBING
MEANS
MORE

Please call 235-NEWS

WHATZIT Solution: Cloud cuckoo land

## RATES AND POLICIES

*Saipan Tribune's* Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

*Saipan Tribune* also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as $15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

**ADS**
- 3-Liner **$15**
- 5-Liner **$24**

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

CIRRUS
CUCULUS
TERRA FIRMA

WHATZIT © 2019 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

# ‘Bromance’ of Brady and Edelman key to Pats success

**ATLANTA** (AP)—Teammates have called their relationship a “bromance.”

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady himself openly uses the word love to describe his bond with Julian Edelman, a receiver he’s come to depend on during his career.

As the duo prepares to play in a fourth Super Bowl together, each says the connection might be tighter ever— both on and off the field.

“We have a great relationship, Jules and I, and I trust him so much,” Brady says. “He’s always been kind of like my little brother, in a good way. I don’t have a little brother, but he’s kind of like a little brother and he knows how much I love him.”

In Edelman’s case, it’s a little brother who has established himself as one of the best slot receivers in Patriots history.

He missed the entire 2017 season with a torn ACL and the first four games of this season for violating the league’s performance enhancers policy. But the 32-year-old helped Brady steady an offense that struggled early this season and had to adjust following the suspension of Josh Gordon heading into the final two games.

Edelman ended the regular season with a team-high 850 receiving yards and was second on the team with 74 receptions and six touchdowns. His production has continued through New England’s first two playoffs games, with Edelman hauling in 16 catches for a team-high 247 yards.

Heading into the matchup with the Rams, his 1,271 postseason receiving yards are the most in Patriots history. There are also just two receivers in NFL postseason history with over 100 catches: Jerry Rice with 151 and Edelman with 105.

It’s earned him high compliments not only from Brady, but from Rice, who praised Edelman as someone who has an attitude of “‘I’m going to do what I want to do, and I’m going to go out and I’m going to ball.”

AP

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) congratulates wide receiver Julian Edelman (11) after Edelman scored a touchdown during the first half of an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins, Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

It not unlike the determination used to describe Brady, who at age 41 continues to prove his skeptics wrong.

“He’s a really good football player, the best,” Edelman said. “He goes out and he consistently proves it. He’s one of our leaders and he’s a leader for a reason.”

Though they first met as teammates in New England when Edelman was drafted by the Patriots a decade ago, he and Brady took remarkably similar paths to get to the NFL.

Both natives of California, each of them grew up idolizing the San Francisco 49ers’ dynasty led by Joe Montana and Rice.

Brady played his college ball at Michigan, with Edelman eventually choosing Kent State across the border in Ohio.

Their stories continued to mirror each other when it came time for the NFL draft.

Brady infamously wasn’t selected until the sixth round in 2000. Edelman, an undersized quarterback who switched to receiver, didn’t hear his name called until the seventh round in 2009.

Chasing the NFL was a leap of faith for Edelman, who nearly signed a contract with the CFL’s British Columbia Lions to play quarterback.

“I sat down with my father and basically, he’s like ‘Let’s do it,’” Edelman recalled. “I just had an eerie feeling in my stomach and I told him I didn’t grow up wanting to play in the CFL. I went and tried to play in the NFL. That was my decision. Everything happens for a reason.”

Edelman was already a fan of Brady’s when he arrived as a rookie, but he said he almost instantly recognized an underdog spirit in his new quarterback as well. As their relationship has evolved, they say they’ve developed their own sort of silent language on the field, and have unique ways to hype up each other.

An example was during the AFC championship game when video captured Edelman in Brady’s face yelling , “You’re too old!” as Brady sat on the bench after throwing a first-half touchdown pass.

“You’ve got two fiery guys. I think it’s fun to watch,” Patriots cornerback Jason McCourty said. “You see two guys that are the ultimate competitor. How hard they both compete in practice, you see the bromance at times, you see the fiery looks they give each other sometimes if someone messes up. Just that look of not disappointment, of just like ‘get it together.’ I think it’s almost like brothers.”

Brady said he continues to be amazed by Edelman.

“Look at his stature. He wasn’t built like Megatron (Calvin Johnson). He’s just built the way he was built and I think he’s just worked so hard over the years to learn how to play receiver,” Brady said. “He’s just done an incredible job.”

# Be it age or injury, Woods begins year at a slower pace

**SAN DIEGO** (AP)—Tiger Woods wrapped up his week at Torrey Pines with a 67 to tie for 20th and said it was good to shake off some rust and see what needs work. It was his first competition in seven weeks, and only his second event since the Ryder Cup ended on Oct. 1.

Whether it’s because of age or injury—both are relevant—keep in mind that for the first 12 years of his pro career, Woods never finished outside the top 10 in his first event of the year, winning six times. The streak ended at the Match Play in 2009 after he sat out eight months recovering from reconstructive knee surgery.

Dating to 2009, he has finished in the top 10 just twice in his first event of the year — a tie for fourth in the 2010 Masters and a tie for third in Abu Dhabi in 2012.

Even at his best, and when healthy, when Woods didn’t win his first start of the year it was written off in some corners as spring training. Everything was geared toward that first full week at Augusta National. In some respects, that remains true.

It’s about peaking four weeks every year, and Woods said that starts “months out.”

But when does it become important to start seeing results?

“Just want to keep building, keep getting more crisp,” Woods said. “It’s hard to peak for four major championships. It’s not easy. I’ve only done it 14 times.”

Most players would love to peak at majors half as much—if that many—in their careers. While conceding that “only” 14 sounds like a lot, Woods put it into context by referencing Jack Nicklaus winning “only” 18 times in 164 majors.

“It’s not easy to do,” said Woods, who has played 80 majors, six as an amateur. “It’s hard to have mind, body and soul come together at the same time. Luckily in this sport, we have four chances per year.”

What has his attention this year is not getting ready for the Masters, but the quick turnaround for the next one, with the PGA Championship moving to May. Last year, for example, there were nine weeks between the Masters and the U.S. Open. Now, there are four weeks between the Masters and the PGA.

“It’s very different because it feels like it’s our Players Championship week,” Woods said. “I’m familiar with the new date where we are with the Players (March). That’s not a big change for me. But having the PGA in May is going to be a little bit different.”

# *Rams; Cooks grabs 2nd shot at Super Bowl after trade*

**ATLANTA** (AP)—In the past three NFL seasons alone, Brandin Cooks has caught passes from Drew Brees, Tom Brady and Jared Goff while playing for Sean Payton, Bill Belichick and Sean McVay.

“I guess I know how to pick ‘em, right?” Cooks asked Tuesday with a laugh.

Cooks has racked up 3,786 yards receiving and 21 total touchdowns in that three-season span, which will include six playoff games and two consecutive Super Bowls.

He played for the Patriots in the big game last year, and he will play against them for the Los Angeles Rams on Sunday. He is also the first player in NFL history to have three consecutive 1,000-yard receiving seasons with three different teams.

But there are asterisks on this incredible resume.

Cooks was only able to accomplish these feats because he was traded before each of the past two seasons, changing teams twice before he turned 25 years old.

Two elite NFL franchises—New Orleans and New England—decided they could do without the speedy, dependable receiver, giving him up for first-round picks.

Although he has been asked about it almost daily during the Rams’ playoff run, Cooks insists he harbors no ill will against the Saints or the Patriots.

The Rams’ postseason could have been a personal revenge tour, but Cooks says it means nothing to him that his two former teams are Los Angeles’ final two playoff opponents: The Rams beat New Orleans 26-23 in the NFC championship game, and they will face the Patriots in the Super Bowl.

While Cooks claims he didn’t take it personally, he also acknowledges using the trades as motivation during his fourth consecutive 1,000-yard season and the subsequent playoff grind.

“It’s fuel to the fire,” Cooks said. “I know that I can play this game at a high level, whether someone thinks it or not. For them to trade me, it’s part of the game, but it also gives me that motivation to keep going, too.”

# Gay's buzzer beater gives Spurs win over Suns

**SAN ANTONIO** (AP)—Rudy Gay hit a 21-foot jumper at the buzzer and the San Antonio Spurs overcame Devin Booker's 38 points to escape with a 126-124 victory over Phoenix on Tuesday night, extending the Suns' losing streak to nine games.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 29 points and 14 rebounds for San Antonio, which is 2-0 on a four-game homestand despite playing without injured DeMar DeRozan. Gay finished with 16 points, five rebounds and five assists.

The Suns lost their 11th straight in San Antonio even though Booker matched his season high in points.

After losing its previous four games by an average of 23 points, Phoenix tied this one with 19.6 seconds remaining. Booker stole a pass from Marco Belinelli and fed Josh Jackson for an uncontested dunk to make it 124-all.

With time winding down, Gay was isolated and hit a jumper as the clock expired to help San Antonio avoid an upset.

The Spurs entered allowing 109.7 points per game, 13th in the NBA, and struggled to contain the Suns. Phoenix had six players score in double figures, including 22 points by Jamal Crawford.

The Suns were 13 for 29 on 3-pointers and shot 60 percent from the field to turn a 12-point deficit in the third quarter into a near victory.

San Antonio went on a 14-2 run starting midway through the third in taking a 94-82 lead. Phoenix pulled to 96-95 early in the fourth, 106-105 midway through the period and 119-118 with two minutes remaining.

The Spurs finished with seven players in double figures, including every starter. Davis Bertans had 18 points and Belinelli scored 17 off the bench.

AP

San Antonio Spurs' Rudy Gay, center, shoots between Phoenix Suns' Josh Jackson, left, and Kelly Oubre, Jr. during the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019, in San Antonio. San Antonio won, 126-124.

### Pelicans 121, Rockets 116

In Houston, Jahlil Okafor produced a season-high point total for a second consecutive game while Jrue Holiday undergirded a patchwork rotation with a sensational defensive performance as the depleted New Orleans Pelicans stunned the Rockets.

James Harden led the Rockets with 37 points—his 24th straight game with at least 30—and added 11 rebounds, but he shot just 11 of 32 from the floor.

Okafor paired 27 points with 12 rebounds while Holiday posted 19 points, six rebounds, eight assists and six blocked shots for the Pelicans, who were missing five of their top six rotation players and reeling from the trade request of All-NBA center Anthony Davis (who is also sidelined with a finger injury).

Harden's streak actually appeared to be in jeopardy, but a late spurt kept it going. He did not hit 30 points until he sank a 3-pointer with less than two minutes left, and then he scored seven more points in the final minute.

### Bucks 115, Pistons 105

In Detroit, Giannis Antetokounmpo collected 21 points, 11 assists, eight rebounds and three steals as visiting Milwaukee completed its first four-game season series sweep of the Pistons.

Eric Bledsoe had 20 points and seven assists and Pat Connaughton added 16 points off the bench for Milwaukee. Khris Middleton contributed 15 points, six rebounds and six assists, Brook Lopez tossed in 14 points and Tony Snell had 11 points in the win.

### Thunder 126, Magic 117

In Orlando, Dennis Schroder's 18 points in the fourth quarter led visiting Oklahoma City to a win over the Magic.

Schroder had 21 points in all, and Paul George scored 37 points (31 in the first half). Russell Westbrook had 23 points, 14 assists and 14 rebounds for Oklahoma City, which extended its winning streak to six games. Schroder scored 18 points during a 23-5 Thunder run midway through the fourth quarter.

Nikola Vucevic led Orlando with 27 points and 11 rebounds, and Evan Fournier added 17 points. The Magic have lost four straight and seven of their last eight games.

### Cavaliers 116, Wizards 113

In Cleveland, Jordan Clarkson scored 28 points and the Cavaliers squandered most of a 25-point fourth-quarter lead before holding on to defeat Washington for its second straight win.

Washington cut the deficit to three points in the final minute and had a chance to tie when it inbounded with 10.8 seconds left but Cedi Osman knocked the ball away from Troy Brown, who was attempting a 3-pointer, and the Cavs held on despite missing nine fourth-quarter free throws.

### Nets 122, Bulls 117

In New York, D'Angelo Russell scored 30 points as Brooklyn overcame some sluggish moments to extend its home winning streak to nine games with a victory over Chicago.

Russell scored at least 30 points for the eighth time this season as he hit 10 of 22 shots and added seven assists. He scored 22 of his points after halftime as the Nets rebounded from Monday's loss to the Celtics in Boston.

Russell's latest productive game also helped the Nets win for the 13th time in their last 14 home games since Dec. 7.

### 76ers 121, Lakers 105

In Los Angeles, Joel Embiid had 28 points, 11 rebounds and six assists as the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Lakers.

Philadelphia had 15 steals, with Jimmy Butler leading the 76ers with five.

Brandon Ingram had 36 points on 16-of-20 shooting for the 26-25 Lakers, who have lost four of their last five. The 33-18 76ers have won six of their last eight.

Los Angeles played without LeBron James, Kyle Kuzma and Lonzo Ball, who were all sidelined with injuries.

## *Davis fined $50K for public trade request*

**NEW ORLEANS**—The NBA on Tuesday fined New Orleans Pelicans superstar Anthony Davis $50,000 "for violating a collectively-bargained rule prohibiting players or their representatives from making public trade demands."

Davis' agent, Rich Paul, who also represents Los Angeles Lakers superstar LeBron James, said that Davis has no plans to sign an extension with New Orleans and that his client wants to be traded.

The NBA said the statements made by Paul were "an intentional effort to undermine the contractual relationship between Davis and the Pelicans."

The league on Monday opened an investigation into Paul's trade request comments, and there is precedent for a player being fined for a public trade request made by the agent.

In 2009, the NBA fined then-New York Knicks guard Nate Robinson $25,000 after his agent, Aaron Goodwin, told reporters that he asked the Knicks to trade his client.

The NBA fined Robinson for "conduct detrimental to the league," and NBA spokesman Tim Frank said players are responsible for public statements relating to them made by their representatives.

Paul's comments have dominated NBA talk for the past two days. Where will Davis, who can't become a free agent until 2020, end up? Will the Pelicans trade him before the Feb. 7 trade deadline? Will they wait until free agency in the summer when Boston can get involved?

The Lakers appear to be the destination. James has said it would amazing to play alongside Davis, who would give the Lakers the second superstar necessary to compete for an NBA championship.

### Lonzo Ball to Suns could be key to Lakers landing AD

Lonzo Ball and the Phoenix Suns are once again being mentioned in the same breath.

On Monday, Davis made it clear to the Pelicans that he wanted to be traded away, and the Los Angeles Lakers are reportedly his preferred destination.

But with less than two weeks before the Feb. 7 trade deadline, several dominoes need to fall for the New Orleans All-Star center to join James in Los Angeles.

Rich Paul, who represents both James and Davis, will need to work some magic here and help pay a $50,000 fine he helped Davis incur Tuesday for making his trade demands public.

To make the deal work, the Lakers will likely need to unload some of their young talent, like Lonzo Ball—and likely get a third team involved to pull off this deal.

Enter Phoenix.

The Suns need a point guard. Ball reportedly would like to play for a team that needs one. Ball is averaging 9.9 points with 5.4 assists and 5.3 rebounds per game, but he's also out right now for four to six weeks because of an injury to his left ankle.

Still, it sounds like a match that was in the works when the Suns were looking to deal Trevor Ariza, but back then, the Lakers made it clear they weren't letting go of their young core.

That could change if they were able to land one of the NBA's top five players.

So could it happen?

Yes, but Phoenix would have to give up a young player, or two, to make it worthwhile for the other two teams.

On the list are TJ Warren, Mikal Bridges, and Josh Jackson.

Earlier this month, league sources said the Suns weren't interested in putting Warren on the trading block. Warren, who is out with right ankle soreness, is second on the team in scoring, averaging 18 points per game.

Phoenix traded to acquire Bridges in the draft. He's averaging 7.7 points, but he's started 38 games and has tremendous upside with his length and athleticism.

Trading him again, even for a point guard, would make that initial trade look bad.

Then there's Jackson.

Talented. Explosive. He plays hard and with an edge, but he hasn't made the leap the Suns were looking for after closing out his first year strong in earning second-team All-NBA rookie honors.

# Qatar to face favored Japan in Asian Cup finals

**ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates** (AP)—Amid shoes being thrown in insult, Qatar won its politically charged match against host United Arab Emirates, 4-0, Tuesday and advanced to the Asian Cup final.

The Qataris, who will host the World Cup in 2022, have won all six of their matches and have yet to concede a goal—the first country to do that at the continental soccer championship.

"It's very important and one of the main keys why we are qualified for the final," Qatar coach Felix Sanchez said about the clean sheets. "I think, obviously to not concede goals gives you more opportunities to go forward."

Qatar will face four-time champion Japan on Friday in the final. Both teams were invited last year to play at the Copa America in 2019, giving the winner of this week's match a chance to win a second continental title in July.

AP

Qatar's forward Almoez Ali, left, and United Arab Emirates defender Ismail Ahmed fight for possession during the AFC Asian Cup semifinal soccer at Mohammed Bin Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019.

A regional boycott of Qatar, led by Saudi Arabia, has impacted the team's logistics at the Asian Cup and made it difficult for the country's fans to attend games. The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt are also part of the boycott.

The Qataris, however, have denied accusations that they support extremists.

On the soccer field, Qatar beat Saudi Arabia 2-0 in the group stage before the 4-0 rout of UAE on Tuesday at the Mohammed Bin Zayed Stadium.

"I would like to apologize to the UAE fans for the result," UAE coach Alberto Zaccheroni said. "We all made mistakes but everyone did their very best. We wanted to make the UAE people happy and we tried until the end. However, we have to admit that the Qatar team was better."

Boualem Khoukhi gave Qatar the lead in the 22nd minute, and Almoez Ali doubled the advantage 15 minutes later.

The second goal prompted the UAE fans to start throwing their shoes at the Qatari players, an act which is considered to be an insult.

"It is not an easy situation but I think, I have to say that in general it was fair play," Sanchez said. "This is only a few people that you have to take in consideration."

The Asian Football Confederation said it could launch an investigation.

"Any incident of this nature will be contained in the official match report which will then be investigated by the AFC," the soccer body said.

Ali's goal was his eighth of the tournament, equaling the record set by Iran forward Ali Daei in 1996 when the Asian Cup was also hosted by the UAE. The 22-year-old Ali will have a chance to break the record against Japan on Friday.

Qatar added two more goals late in the match, the first from Hasan Al Haydos in the 80th minute and the last from Hamid Ismaeil seconds after coming off the bench with time winding down.

The UAE played the final seconds with 10 men after Ismail Ahmed was sent off for a rough tackle.

# Mariners finally get chance to honor Edgar's election

**SEATTLE** (AP)—Edgar Martinez spent last week on the East Coast, being honored among the latest electees to the Baseball Hall of Fame thousands of miles from the place he called home for his entire career.

The Seattle Mariners couldn't wait to celebrate Martinez in the Pacific Northwest.

"Today is a great day," Mariners' chairman emeritus John Ellis said. "We finally have him here."

After a whirlwind of commitments elsewhere, the standout designated hitter was back in Seattle on Tuesday, walking into T-Mobile Park on a red carpet to be feted by the only franchise he ever played for. It was a celebration the Mariners had been hoping to have for the past 10 years. Martin was in his final year of eligibility when the Baseball Writers' Association of America finally gave him the necessary votes for enshrinement.

Martinez and his family walked into a crowd of Mariners employees cheering the second player whose plaque in Cooperstown will have a Mariners hat, joining Ken Griffey Jr. Martinez is enjoying the experience even if he's not one to get emotional, for now.

"My personality is kind of mellow. I don't celebrate a lot. It's just my personality," Martinez said. "But I've been able to enjoy friends, ex-teammates, people I know, family members, that part has been a lot of fun. But not a lot of celebration."

Martinez was elected last week with 85.4 percent of the vote—75 percent is required for induction. That marked a remarkable turnaround, climbing in his final five years of eligibility after being an afterthought on the ballot early on.

It was a collective effort to get him there. The Mariners organization worked hard publicizing his worthiness, die-hard fans pushed for him on social media, and younger voters made a case for the designated hitter with the help of baseball's new-age analytics.

"It took a long time for the writers to give more credit to the DH. I think now that probably (will) change," Martinez said. "I think metrics they look at today, that will also change writers what they think about it. I understood their opinion the whole time ... and kind of accepted that a long time ago. But the good thing is I got the honor to be elected, and I think that's going to change the view from writers now."

Tuesday's event is just the start of what is expected to be a season-long celebration by the organization. Aside from the induction in July, the Mariners are holding a weekend of events in honor of Martinez in August. Still unannounced is whether there will be a statue going up somewhere around the stadium to join the club's other two Hall of Fame members: Griffey and longtime broadcaster Dave Niehaus.

## KAUTZ

*From Page 28*

for the yearend event after topping the May Ace tournament.

Meanwhile, after losing in the tiebreak, Aldan settled for the first place honors and was joined in the Top 5 by Sablan (net 150), December Ace winner and CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan (151), Frank Castro (153), and April Ace Alex Tudela (159).

Aldan also had a closest to the pin shot on the west's No. 13, while Manibusan did the same on No. 17 and made longest drives on the east's No. 1 and west's No. 2 and No. 18 holes. Sablan earned the other longest drive honors, doing it on east's No. 10, while Larry A. Deleon Guerrero had closest to the pin shots on the east's No. 6 and 11. Jung Eun Teack and Kautz were the other closest to the pin winners on the east course—No. 4 and No. 6 holes, respectively.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players in the 2018 Saipan Golfers Association Ace of Aces Tournament pose for a photo last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

### January Ace tournament

Meanwhile, the second round of the SGA Ace of Aces event doubled as the January Ace tournament with Larry I. Deleon Guerrero securing the club's first monthly award.

The 17-handicapper fired a 49 on the front and 42 on the back for a gross 91 and net 74, giving him a one-stroke win over Manibusan. The 5-handicapper Manibusan had a pair of 40s for a net 75 and runner-up honors, while Steve Balakrishna was at close third with his net 76. Holding a 7-handicap, Balakrishna logged a 43 in the first nine holes and 44 in the last for a gross 87.

## 4

*From Page 28*

nals after downing Isaac Heo, 4-1, 4-1, while Kang followed suit after ousting A.J. Hudkins, 4-2, 4-1. Before bowing to Kang, Hudkins won over Jaehoon Son, 4-2, 4-0.

Kim and Kang are forced to play in the semis this Saturday, as their match and other games last Sunday were rescheduled due to rain. Also reset for this weekend is the mini tennis tournament.

## MCS

*From Page 28*

the Lady Geckos court in As Lito.

The winner of the MCS JV versus SIS 2 game will challenge GCA in the semis tomorrow at the Lady Eagles court at 4:30pm, while over at the SIS court, the Lady Geckos will duel in the other semis tiff the victor in the MCS Varsity-Agape playoff match.

Meanwhile, the semis matches in the boys division will also take place tomorrow with GCA squaring off against MCS at the Eagles court and SIS hosting Agape. GCA finished first in the preliminary round with its 5-1 record, while SIS came in at close second with its 4-2 slate. Agape was ranked third with an even 3-3 record, while the winless MCS was at the bottom.

The Geckos and Torchbearers will be an interesting pairing, as they split their games in the regular season. While Agape had the upper hand in their first meeting, SIS had the last laugh after beating the Torchbearers in their second faceoff and clinching the No. 2 seed in the process.

"We were prepared and we executed what we practiced, which led to victory," SIS captain Junhee Lee said, adding that their victory was crucial. "Because of this win, we got the second seed…However, we did not stop there, as we need to get ready for the playoffs right away."

"Another thing that we will be focusing on is our communication. It is one of the most important things in volleyball and I believe that better communication will lead to better plays," Lee said.

The championship games in the boys and girls divisions will be played on Feb. 6 and will be hosted by the higher seeded teams.

# Marianas International Basketball League 3x3 Tournament

**PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**

CTSI's Nana Watanabe, center, unloads a reverse layup against the Ballerz's Cassandra Camacho during the women's open division game in the Marianas International Basketball League 3x3 Tournament last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ballerz's Chenille Espinosa, right, takes off for a running shot against CTSI's Madeleine Alegre.

A Tinian Typhoon player, right, drives against a Roll Aces defender durijg their game in the boys U15 division.

CTSI's Irish Pagarao, right, releases a point-blank shot in front of the Ballerz's Cassandra Camacho.

Chagi's Paulynn Joyce tries to slip past two Junior Lady Aces defenders during their girls U18 division match.

The Ballerz's Cassandra Camacho pulls up for a short jumper.

A Tinian Typoon player drives against a Roll Aces defender.

The Junior Lady Aces' Kina Rangamar, left, and Chagi's Ruschell Valino chase the ball.

'Bromance' of Brady and Edelman key to Pats success

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Gay's buzzer beater gives Spurs win over Suns

PAGE 25

# MCS kicks off playoff round

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
pamintuanroby@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

With the regular season games in the books, the stage is set for the playoff round of the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League.

Mt. Carmel School will host the first wave of playoff matches today with its varsity team taking on Agape Christian School at 3:30pm and the Lady Knights' junior varsity squad meeting Saipan International School 2 at 4:30pm. The winners of the pair of matches at the MCS court in Chalan Kanoa will advance to the semifinals, joining Grace Christian Academy and SIS 1.

The Lady Eagles perched atop the rankings with a 9-1 record to take the automatic semis berth, while SIS 1 got the other outright Final Four slot after placing second in the final team standings with its 8-2 card. MCS Varsity penciled in as the No. 3 seed with its 7-3 record and was followed by MCS JV (4-6), SIS 2 (2-8) and Agape (1-8). MCS JV finished fourth in the rankings after outclassing SIS 2 in a make-up game, 21-25, 25-21, 15-9, yesterday at

See MCS on Page 26

ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
A Mt. Carmel School player serves to Saipan International School 1 during a make-up game in the CCOPSA volleyball league yesterday at the SIS court in As Lito.

# Kautz reigns supreme

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rick Kautz ended a more than a decade drought after earning the 2018 Saipan Golfers Association Ace of Aces honors last Sunday.

"I've been competing in SGA for 15 years and it's only my first time to win the SGA Ace of Aces," said Kautz, who shot a two-day total of 149 (net) and beat Joe H. Aldan on a scorecard playoff to rule the club championship held at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort over the weekend.

The veteran golfer banked on a strong first round and hung tough against the challenging weather condition in the second to top the season-ending competition. The 9-handicapper fired a 39 on the front nine and 40 on the back for a gross 79 and net 70 in the opening round played on the east course. Kautz was just one stroke behind Nick Sablan after the first round, as the latter and 6-handicapper carded a 36 and 39 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 75 and net 69. Aldan, the January Ace winner and holds a 13 handicap, also remained within the striking distance of Sablan after shooting a 42 in the first nine holes and 41 in the last to match Kautz's scores.

Sablan and Kautz remained in a deadlock after the second round with the former registering a 48 and 44 for a gross 92 and net 79 and the latter posting a 42 and 46 for a gross 88. Kautz went on to win the standoff after recording a 1-over against Sablan's 2-over in the tiebreak hole No. 7 in the second round.

The final round was played on the west course, which should have been easier for the golfers, but not that Sunday, no thanks to the rain and windy condition.

"We were thinking we will have better scores in the second round because we are playing on the west course. But, the weather was terrible, it was so windy," said Kautz.

The weather and course condition was so unforgiving that some of the players did not complete the final round and the competition finished later in the afternoon.

When asked how he survived the harsh condition and finally won the SGA Ace of Aces, Kautz said he just played without thinking of winning.

"No expectations. I just go out there and hit the ball the way I normally do," said Kautz, who qualified

See KAUTZ on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Rick Kautz poses with his championship trophy after winning the 2018 Saipan Golfers Association Ace of Aces Tournament last weekend.

# 4 secure finals berth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Savita Sikkel, Irin Chung, Sam Ryu, and David Kwon clinched finals tickets in the singles events in the Saipan International School Student Council Tennis Tournament last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

Sikkel and Chung advanced to the title match of the girls U12 singles after posting similar victories. Chung moved to the finals first after demolishing Anna Kwon in their morning match, 4-0, 4-0. Sikkel, on the other hand, notched a pair of wins last weekend to secure the second finals slot. She first eliminated Hoo Wang and then crushed Dana Lee, 4-0, 4-0, to set up a championship showdown against Chung this Sunday at 8am.

David Kwon, a 4-0, 4-1 winner over Andrew Chung in the quarterfinals, will also see action in a title game this Sunday following a 4-1, 0-4, 5-0 triumph over Anthony Gregoire in the first semis game in the boys U14 singles. Kwon's finals foe will be the winner in this Saturday's second semis match between Daniel Kang and Jun Wang. Kang eased his way to the semis after ousting Daniel Nam 4-1, 4-0, while Wang also cruised to the Final Four after taking a 4-1 win in the first set and Danny Lee forfeited the second.

Meanwhile, Ryu bagged the first finals berth in the boys U18 singles. The top-ranked player drew a bye in the first round and got a free ride to the semis after Clayton Izuka forfeited their quarterfinal duel. Izuka earlier edged Daniel Heo, 4-3, 3-4, 5-3 to challenge Ryu for the semis slot in the division. Ryu went on to play his first game in the age group and needed only two sets to beat Andy Kim, 4-2, 4-1. Kim also got a bye in the first round and marched into the semis after whipping Min Cho, 4-0, 4-0, in their upper half draw game.

At the bottom half, Tony Kim and Kang will dispute the remaining finals ticket. Tim entered the semifi-

See 4 on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Savita Sikkel eyes a return to Dana Lee during their girls U12 singles game in the Saipan International School Student Council Tennis Tournament last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.